

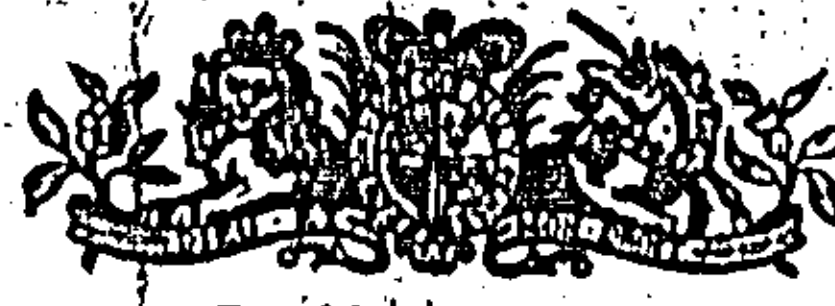
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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Realistic Budget

THE Financial Secretary has spared the Colony any Budget shocks and the community is accordingly grateful. All, in fact, congratulate Mr. Clarke on his lucid review of the year now ending and his workmanlike estimating for the coming twelve months. His Budget appeals, not merely because he has found it possible to avoid any new and immediate impositions on the taxpayers, but because of his realistic estimating of revenue. It is a pleasure to be presented with budgeting that bears some real relation to the Colony's proven capacity to raise revenue. The Financial Secretary can be reasonably certain that his estimated income of \$285 million will be forthcoming, and both he and the community will be thankful if this is exceeded by a few million dollars. The deficit for which he has budgeted can be regarded as nominal and will quite probably be covered irrespective of the million and a half dollars which are to be raised by increasing the betting tax.

THE actual surplus for the year ending is at first sight somewhat disappointing—\$10 million dollars less than the original estimate—but as more than \$50 million were utilised in eliminating the Rehabilitation Loan account and meeting other urgent demands not provided for in the original estimates, the overall result is completely satisfactory. None will disagree with the policy of restoring the Colony's reserves by reducing loan liabilities. That it has been possible to do so is solid proof of our healthy financial condition, and a very good reason for renewed confidence in the future of Hongkong. The Financial Secretary insists that we cannot consider ourselves "extremely well off," nevertheless we are entitled to regard the financial stability of the Colony with a degree of satisfaction. We are still more than paying our way.

IN the general satisfaction that is certain to be felt by the absence of proposals to impose new taxation (apart from the modest increase in the betting tax over which none will feel aggrieved) it is as well to take heed of the Financial Secretary's pointed hint that it may become necessary to find means of raising additional revenue in the future. Any such action during the financial year about to begin would only be justifiable if economic conditions produced a decided decline in revenue. And in any event, if and when Government is satisfied that more income is necessary, it is to be sincerely hoped that additional taxation will be levied through indirect channels. There are relatively painless methods of extracting money from the community, which are also capable of producing substantial revenue. It is such methods which should be exploited before any attempt is made to increase direct taxation on incomes. The hope, if not the expectation, however, is that the Colony will be able to get through the 1952-3 financial year without being saddled with new taxation burdens. We shall be surprised if Mr. Clarke's estimates do not prove themselves to be the most accurate in the history of local Government budgeting.

Bevanites Refuse To Support Opposition Amendment

62 LABOUR MPs ABSTAIN FROM VOTING

London, Mar. 5. The Bevanites, through their spokesman Mr. Richard Crossman, indicated in the House of Commons tonight that they could not support the Socialist Opposition amendment to the Government's defence policy. The amendment, while agreeing with the policy, expressed no confidence in the Government's competence to carry it out. Later, when the vote was taken, the amendment was defeated by 314 to 219. No less than 62 Labour members abstained from voting on their own party's motion. Subsequently the Government motion approving Mr. Churchill's defence plans was carried by 313 votes to 55. In indicating that the Bevanites could lend no support to the Opposition amendment, Mr. Crossman declared, "Of all the things I would most hesitate to challenge Churchill, it would be on his competence to carry out a defence programme."

He would rather challenge Mr. Churchill on his competence to decide the priority of the military weapon as against the economic and social defence of democracy, Mr. Crossman added. Britain had to work out a defence plan within her general economic framework, he claimed. Addressing the Labour benches, Mr. Crossman said, "We must rethink our armament programme not in terms of imminent war as the main danger but of imminent bankruptcy of the free world."

It was an entirely new situation created by an economic crisis so severe that the French economy and political system of democracy was "threatened with open collapse," Mr. Crossman maintained. **SHINWELL'S QUERY** Asked by another Labour member, Mr. Emanuel Shinwell, former Defence Minister, what he would make in the arms programme, Mr. Crossman said that Britain switched \$250,000,000 from armaments to exports she might get through the crisis by a very narrow margin. He suggested that the United States should make the equivalent amount of arms extra for Britain.

The present programme constituted a threat to Britain's national independence, Mr. Crossman continued. It could only be carried out through American assistance. The assistance was taking the form of dollars given on the condition that Britain switched her export industries to armaments. That was strangling Britain's economy.

Mr. Crossman thought that American help should be in the form of "lend-lease" of finished equipment. "We must decide to build nothing in Britain which our resources cannot afford," he said.

For anything beyond that Britain should provide the men and the United States the equipment. Mr. Crossman sat down amid the cheers of Conservatives who had enjoyed his attack on his own leaders. **SHINWELL'S VIEW** Mr. Emanuel Shinwell told the House of Commons during its defence debate tonight that unless the United States could provide more equipment very quickly, there was no hope of building up anything like 50 divisions in Western Europe this year or the next year—or maybe the year after. There had been controversy whether Britain should seek military aid from the United States, he said. "My view is that we ought to accept military aid from America without any strings attached."

Mr. Shinwell asserted that Britain's real aircraft bottleneck was the difficulty of persuading British aircraft manufacturers to play their full part. Better organisation was wanted. Maybe, some day the Government would have to take them over, he said. Mr. Shinwell wanted the arms programmes pushed ahead as quickly as possible. It would

be a mistake to "prolong the agony" but he was not sure that the Government was able to spend £1,400 million on it this year. **CHURCHILL WARNS** The Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, warned that Britain's "lagging" rearmament programme might suffer further delays even though he is urgently preparing the country's defences against possible airborne invasion. He said the shortage of machine tools and lack of American dollars with which to buy materials may play a part in delaying completion of the USS13,000,000,000 by one year, which would mean completion in four years instead of three. Mr. Churchill implied that delay in the receipt of \$300,000,000 which the United States had promised in rearmament aid might help to slow the programme. The Premier was defending the rearmament programme in the Commons against a Labour Party motion of censure. He said that, big as it was, the rearmament programme was not in itself sufficient to guarantee Britain's safety. "I rely on the rapidly growing and already overwhelming power of the United States and the atomic bomb to provide deterrents against acts of aggression during the period of forming a defence front in Western Europe."

"If war should come, it will be with violent speed and suddenness and here at home, with almost all our regular army overseas, we must rely to an unusual extent on the Home Guard. "Enough resolute men must be armed and ready to aid all other forms of protection against raids, descents and sabotage," Mr. Churchill said. **USAF Transit Camp Blaze** Shaftesbury, Mar. 5. Fire brigades from a wide area fought a blaze which early today extensively damaged the base chapel, the NCO's quarters and the mess hall at the United States Air Force transit camp at Guy's Marsh, near Shaftesbury, Dorset. The fire started in the NCO's quarters on an outside block and in spite of the efforts of 14 fire brigades three blocks of buildings became ablaze. Airmen who were in bed when the alarm sounded hurriedly removed personal belongings to grass verges. The camp, formerly a military hospital, is made up of a large number of huts connected by corridors. The fire was put out after two hours, —Reuter.

Television Grows In Popularity London, Mar. 5. A further 100,000 television licences were taken out in January, bringing the total to 21,255,900.—Reuter.

1,000 Queue Up To Offer Blood Rio de Janeiro, Mar. 5. A queue of 1,000 people waited today to give their blood for the 300 injured in yesterday's train disaster in a suburb of Rio. Supplies of blood plasma became exhausted and the medical authorities appealed to the population for more donors. Today they reported a magnificent response from all sections of the community, including police and all the officers, crew and cadets on the German sailing ship, Pamir, now in port here. The death roll was today put at 119. The spot where the electric train hit a derailed section of a wooden suburban express was identical with the scene of a previous accident. Some weeks ago a train of tank wagons ran off the rails there and some of these wagons have not yet been removed from the spot. Of a family of six on the electric train, only one young child survived and she is in hospital. Pillaging of goods and some looting of dead bodies added to the macabre horror of the tragedy. The Director of Rio Medical Institute, Dr. Jesus Paiva, said he believed that this was South America's worst railway crash.—Reuter.



The 2½ year old charge against the Widow in Black, Marie Besnard, that she poisoned 11 relatives with arsenic for £20,000 in legacies, was recently postponed for a further three months. She stood stolid and white-faced amid congratulations. Her smiling lawyers slapped each other on the back. And then 56-year-old Marie vanished down the 11th-century stone steps of the Poitiers courthouse, back to her cell. — London Express.

More Earth Tremors

More earthquake tremors have been recorded. Associated Press reports that an earthquake, strong enough to wreck buildings, occurred 575 miles from Tucson, Arizona, at 3:15 p.m. GMT yesterday (11:15 p.m. Hongkong Time), according to the US Coast and Geodetic Survey Magnetic Observatory. Mr. J. Campbell, Director of the Observatory, said the direction of the tremor was not determined, but it was assumed to have occurred in an uninhabited place. Reuter reports from New York that the Fordham University seismographs yesterday recorded new earthquake shocks in the Pacific region. One of fairly severe intensity was recorded at 2:38 a.m. GMT. It was estimated to be about 180 miles south of the coast of Japan. This would place it in the area of the Philippines.

1,000 Queue Up To Offer Blood

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Repair Work To 'Quake Damage Starts In Hokkaido

Rescue teams working through the frost-bound mountains of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island, reported that some communities have already begun repairing the destruction caused by the earthquake on Tuesday. But reports from coastal communities received early today said that other stricken areas were still paralysed from the double blows of the earthquake and tidal waves of 48 hours ago. Aircraft brought the first assistance to the stricken village of Kiritappu, on the southeast tip of Hokkaido. A United States plane dropped 900 blankets and medical supplies. Other aircraft dropped supplies for the population of Kushiro City, 50 miles south along the coast from Kiritappu. The thousands of persons in both communities spent their second bitter night without heat, power or water. Many were homeless. A Government official, surveying the damage, said that crews working round the clock hoped to repair all major railway links within 24 hours. A later report said that the coastal railway link with Kushiro and Kiritappu was too badly damaged for quick repair. **ANKIETY AND HOPE** Japanese mainland residents with families and friends on Hokkaido were torn between anxiety and hope today as meagre casualty reports continued to be unexpectedly low. The Japanese national police said that they had recovered 20 bodies in coastal communities. They said that one person was killed by a falling chimney during the earthquake, but the United States Army Headquarters stood by its casualty report which said that 31 persons had died. The United States Army also issued, but did not confirm, a report which said that 120 persons had died at Urakawa, a coastal community on the southern tip of Hokkaido. Army communiques listed 23 persons missing from the village of Kiritappu. The earthquake and successive tidal waves had destroyed or seriously damaged more than 350 houses in Kiritappu. Reports on the number of injured totalled close to 200. Property damage on Hokkaido was extensive. Most reports said that at least 2,000 buildings were destroyed or seriously damaged. Official sources estimated that the total cost would be upwards of 1,000 million yen (£1,000,000). Several interior towns along the main railway line eastwards from Sapporo were planning to reopen schools tomorrow. Rescue teams said that one small town had shored up its school building's walls with logs. Residents were busy replacing chimneys. A Japanese reporter said in a brief radio dispatch—one of the few eyewitness reports to be received—that the people of one city had scrambled wildly up the icy slopes of nearby hills after the warnings. That was at Kushiro—with a population of 60,000—thought to be the worst hit area. A 6,000-foot volcano overlooking Kushiro belched grey smoke today as rescue teams worked through smoking ruins to tend the injured and count the dead. All road and railway lines between Kushiro and the rest of Hokkaido are broken. Great cracks in the earth isolate many other communities, according to pilots' reports. General Matthew B. Ridgway, the United Nations Supreme Commander in Japan, offered his personal plane today to the Japanese Premier, Mr. Shigeru Yoshida, for a flight over the wrecked areas. The Premier announced that General Ridgway had promised to "spare no effort" to alleviate the suffering.—Reuter.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN VALETTA Valletta, Mar. 5. Workers on strike from the British Armed Services Department here today stoned the Malta Prime Minister's official residence and booted Lady Creasy, wife of the Governor, Sir Gerald Creasy, as she drove through the city. The civil police kept the situation under control and by this afternoon the city was quiet. About 15,000 workers have been on strike for 12 days for a wage increase of 14 shillings a week.—Reuter. **Unconscious For Eleven Days** London, Mar. 5. Agnes Edge, 35, of Thurston, Lancashire, unconscious for 11 days with a fractured skull, has regained partial consciousness.—Reuter.

Pinay's Plan For France

8-Point Programme Forecast

Paris, Mar. 5. The French Premier-designate, M. Antoine Pinay, still lacking an assured parliamentary majority, worked here today on a speech aimed at swinging the Socialist or Gaullist voter he needs to head France's seventeenth post-war Cabinet.

M. Pinay, third candidate for the Premiership in France's six-day political and financial crisis, has firm promises of support from Moderate Conservatives, Radicals and some Leftist-Radicals. Popular Republicans have also given tacit approval to his investiture. Even with the full support of all these groups—excluding any abstentions or negative votes—M. Pinay would still find himself 30 or 40 votes short of the 313 needed for his election. That is why 60-year-old M. Pinay, who was Transport Minister in the outgoing Faure Government, needs the backing of Socialists or Gaullists.

MAIN POINTS Main points in M. Pinay's programme were reported in lobby circles tonight to be as follows: 1.—Endorsement of present French foreign policy, including full support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and European integration. M. Pinay may press for closer co-ordination in military and economic planning. 2.—Greater and speedier American military aid to the French expeditionary force in Indo-China. 3.—Cuts and drastic reforms in the nationalised industries and social insurance system. 4.—A slow-down in some sectors of the industrial modernisation plan with exceptions in such key industries as coal, electricity and oil refineries. 5.—Lower new taxes than were proposed by M. Edgar Faure when his government fell. M. Pinay, it is believed, will ask for only two-thirds or half of the 184,000 million francs requested by the Faure Cabinet through increased taxation. 6.—Relaxation on social insurances (social security, family allowances and other taxes) in accordance with the total earnings of workers irrespective of the number of hours worked. 7.—No immediate salary increases and if necessary a price freezing of some commodities. 8.—Constitutional reforms to strengthen the executive.—Reuter.

FEARS CONFIRMED Saechi whispered his fears to her during a dance. Shortly afterwards he died and the Countess was charged with his murder. The trial had become one of the most publicised in Italy since the war. Saechi's widow, a tall, strikingly handsome Viennese woman, had already told the Court how she once surprised her husband and Countess Bellentani in an hotel bedroom. A statement alleged to have been written by the Countess in (Contd. on back page, Col. 1).

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Avalanche Hurls Man Into Gorge

Salsburg, Mar. 5. An Austrian was swept into a 150-metre deep gorge and another was almost hurled into it by an avalanche which crashed down on the Stelner road, about 20 kilometres (12 miles) south of Salsburg, today. Sano Valentini, a butcher from Vigana, was swept off the road and lies buried in the narrow gorge in deep snow. He can be reached only by ropes, but rescue work cannot start because new avalanches are threatening. A road worker, also swept away by the avalanche, was rescued after some time half way over the edge of the gorge.—Reuter.

Prophesied His Own Death

Como, Italy, Mar. 5. An Italian society woman told a Court here today that a wealthy man-about-town whispered into her ear while they danced—one night three-and-a-half years ago: "Mark my words—before this night is over I shall be dead. A woman will murder me."

Within an hour he died with a bullet through his heart. Franca Tremolada Torricelli was testifying at the trial of Italian Countess Pia Bellentani, who is charged with the murder of Carlo Saechi, a man who, according to the testimony of his wife, was the Countess's lover. Countess Bellentani, aged 36, is being tried in her absence. Soon after the death of Saechi, she was taken to an asylum suffering from a nervous breakdown. Torricelli told the Court that she was at the same table as the Countess and her husband and Saechi and his wife at a fashionable dinner in an hotel on Lake Como in September, 1949. Saechi whispered his fears to her during a dance. Shortly afterwards he died and the Countess was charged with his murder. The trial had become one of the most publicised in Italy since the war. Saechi's widow, a tall, strikingly handsome Viennese woman, had already told the Court how she once surprised her husband and Countess Bellentani in an hotel bedroom. A statement alleged to have been written by the Countess in (Contd. on back page, Col. 1).

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No Promises To Britain

Washington, Mar. 5.
The Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, told the House today that no troop commitments were made during the recent talks between President Truman and the British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill.

He was acting on directions from the President. Mr. Acheson's statement was in the form of a letter to the Speaker, Sam Rayburn, Texas Democrat. It answered a House resolution requesting full and complete information with respect to any troop commitments. The House passed the resolution last month.—Associated Press.

Acheson's Defence Of Mr Dulles

"AGREEMENT NOT VIOLATED"

Washington, Mar. 5.
The Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, today defended Mr. John Foster Dulles, principal United States negotiator of the Japanese peace treaty, against a charge that he had violated an agreement with Britain over Japan's future relations with China.

Mr. Acheson was asked at his weekly Press conference about a statement in the House of Commons last week by Mr. Herbert Morrison—that Mr. Dulles had broken an agreement with the former Foreign Secretary that Japan should be free to decide whether it could recognise the People's Government of China or Nationalist China.

(In the foreign affairs debate in the British House of Commons on Feb. 20 Mr. Morrison said, "Contrary to the agreement that Japan should be free as to which Chinese Government she recognises when she became an independent and sovereign State, United States pressure was brought to bear on the Japanese Government to commit themselves in advance to the recognition of the Chiang Kai-shek Government.")

Mr. Acheson today declined direct comment on Mr. Morrison's statement. But he did not correct to say that Mr. Dulles had violated the so-called Dulles-Morrison agreement in any way.

He had supported Mr. Dulles throughout in what he had said to the Japanese Premier, Mr. Shigeru Yoshida.

"Mr. Morrison's charge arose out of a recent exchange of letters between Mr. Dulles and Mr. Yoshida. The Japanese Premier assured Mr. Dulles that Japan was following a policy of co-operation with the United States and, therefore, could not deal with the People's Government of China.—Reuter.

Reforms In Yugoslavia

Belgrade, Mar. 5.
Marshal Tito's Government will soon place all wages and salaries in economic enterprises, all of which are nationalised in Yugoslavia, on a profit-sharing basis, Belgrade Radio said today.

Over and above a guaranteed minimum the wages will reflect total earnings of the enterprises in which they belong.

This will apply to the wages of unskilled, skilled and highly skilled workers and to salaries of office workers.

The Radio also stated that the Government has reduced the prices of agricultural machinery and various products needed by State farms, co-operatives and private peasants.—Reuter.

LIVING STANDARDS ON DOWNGRADE IN SOVIET SATELLITE COUNTRIES

Paris, Mar. 5.
Rearmament in the Soviet satellite nations is continuing and standards of living are falling, the American Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. George Perkins, said here today.

These two trends had emerged in reports from American diplomatic chiefs in East European countries, he said.

Mr. Perkins, responsible in the State Department for European affairs, told the Anglo-American Club that living standards in some of the more prosperous satellite nations—he later named Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland—were becoming nearer those of Russia.

"Whether this trend will stop on reaching the level of Russia we do not know," he said.

The question of closing American diplomatic missions in Eastern European countries had come up during the current conference here of American diplomats from East Europe, he continued.

Mr. Perkins indicated that there would be no immediate closing of diplomatic missions.

RETALIATION?

Asked for the State Department's view on reciprocity or retaliation in the treatment of diplomats, he said, "The prime problem is that if we allow our people to be further and further restricted without ever taking any action they may eventually wind up in a sort of house prison, confined to their compounds. What measures to take depends on individual situations in different countries. None of us likes using techniques which the satellites use in handling diplomats."

Mr. Perkins said that the question of withdrawing American missions from Czechoslovakia and Hungary had been a principal point of discussion during the conference.

CZECH PURGES

American diplomats accredited to Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Russia had compared notes on the cost and usefulness of their missions.

Asked if there was any trend towards greater centralisation in Moscow, he said, "It is our firm conviction that Moscow is the capital of these satellites."

"They do not, however, behave in the same way or impose the same restrictions at the same time."

"Moscow probably wants it that way to avoid too much indication of central direction."

Asked about recent political purges in Czechoslovakia, he said, "We assume that there will be some more."—Reuter.

Economic Commission For Europe

Geneva, Mar. 5.
The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe today elected Madame Karin Rokk, Director of Sweden's Central Bureau of Statistics, as its Chairman for the third successive year.

Mr. A. A. Temishov, Chief of the Byelorussian delegation, was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman.

In supporting Madame Rokk's nomination, the Soviet delegate hoped that next year would see a representative of Eastern Europe in the chair for the first time in the six years of the commission's existence.

The British Secretary for Overseas Trade, Mr. Henry Hopkinson, said the British delegation had no objection to the Soviet suggestion but it was difficult to make commitments a year ahead.

It was important that the commission should elect unanimously the best chairman it could find.—Reuter.

BRITAIN TO STAND BY SUDANESE

London, Mar. 5.
Britain would stand by her pledges to the Sudan, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, Minister of State, said today.

The Government was well aware of the feeling in the Sudan about Egypt's claim to sovereignty over the territory, now ruled jointly by Britain and Egypt.

Mr. Lloyd had been asked by a Labour Member, Mr. Tom Driberg, in the House of Commons to give an assurance that the Government would take no action that might prejudice the Sudanese people's right to determine their future status.

Mr. Driberg also asked if the Minister had any information suggesting that the new Egyptian Government of Ahmed Nasser would take a different line on Egypt's demand for unity of the Nile Valley than that expressed by their predecessors.

Mr. Lloyd said he had no such information yet.

Answering other questions Mr. Selwyn Lloyd denied that Britain had given a "definition of titular sovereignty" of the Sudan to Abdallah Bey Khalil, leader of the Sudan Legislative Assembly, or any other party leader in the Sudan.

Sir Ralph Glynn, Conservative, who put this question, also asked whether the United States Ambassador in Cairo had expressed his Government's support for the British pledges to the Sudanese.

On the second part of the question, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd said: "It would not be proper for me to answer for the views of an Ambassador of another State."—Reuter.

Mexico City, Mar. 5.
A large amount of silver currency minted in Mexico has been contracted for by the Dominican Republic, the Bank of Mexico said today. The first shipment left here several days ago.

The Bank said important silver sales had also been made to Western Germany and Saudi Arabia.—United Press.

British Refusal To Bring Burma Issue Before UN

London, Mar. 5.
The British Government would not bring the issue of Chinese Nationalist troops in Burma to the attention of the United Nations Security Council, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, Minister of State, told the House of Commons today.

Mr. Arthur Henderson (Labour) had asked for this action to be taken under Article 85 of the United Nations Charter.

After Mr. Lloyd's refusal, Mr. Henderson pointed out that the Chiang Kai-shek Administration occupied a seat on the Security Council. Was it not, therefore, a matter of concern when it was alleged that a member of the Security Council was maintaining and reinforcing its troops on the territory of a member State of the United Nations?

Mr. Lloyd said: "The Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, made it clear what was the suggestion of the British Government in his speech to the House on Feb. 5.

"These troops are said to be on the territory of Burma, and it is considered just as well to let Burma have an opportunity of expressing an opinion on this matter."

Mr. Philip Noel-Baker (Labour): "Did not Burma ask in the General Assembly that action should be taken to secure the withdrawal of these troops?"

"Are we satisfied that the United Nations has done everything it can to persuade Chiang Kai-shek that these troops must be withdrawn?"

Mr. Lloyd: "According to my recollection of United Nations proceedings, the Burmese representatives were particularly anxious that this matter should not be brought before the United Nations. The question of persuasion or representation is another matter."

(On Feb. 5 the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, said that the British Government was ready to do all it could to clear up the "confused and disturbing situation" in Burma. He suggested that it might be helpful if the United Nations could establish a small commission to investigate the situation.—Reuter.

Tit-For-Tat In Berlin

Berlin, Mar. 5.
The electric power station in the Soviet sector in Berlin has discontinued all power supplies to the Western sectors.

The electricity company of Western Berlin has ceased all power supplies to the Soviet sector and some part of the Soviet zone as retaliation.—France-Press.

ROME BLOW AT VICE

Rome, Mar. 5.
The Senate today passed a Bill ordering that Italy's 2,000 State-licensed brothels be closed within six months of the Bill becoming law.

The Bill has still to be passed by the Chamber of Deputies.

Contravenors will be liable to two to six years' imprisonment and a fine of 100,000 to four million lire.

The Bill was introduced by a left-wing Socialist woman Senator, Angelina Merloni. It also prohibits a street prostitution. Women soliciting in the streets will be liable to a maximum of eight days' detention and a fine of 500 to 2,000 lire.

The Bill gives the Ministry of the Interior a free hand to help the women thrown out of State-licensed brothels. Girls under 21 will be sent back to their families—if their families want them.

The Bill also introduces an innovation into the Italian police system—a corps of women police. This corps will, within the limits of "possibility," substitute the regular police in anti-vice duties.—Reuter.

Contracts For New Ships

Washington, Mar. 5.
The Navy has announced the letting of vessel-construction contracts totalling approximately \$51,000,000.

Two fleet oilers will be built by the New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, N. J., at a price of \$19,550,000.

Four landing ships will be built by the Ingalls Shipbuilding Corp., Pascagoula, Miss., at a cost of \$31,570,000.—Associated Press.

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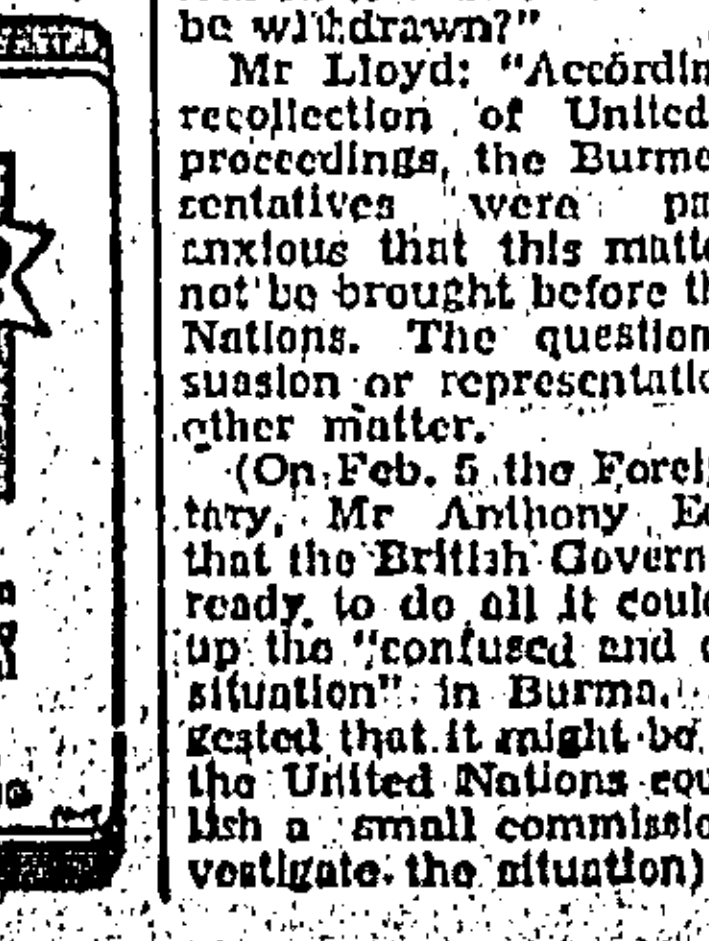
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CAUSE OF WORLD TENSION

Attlee Puts Blame On U.S. Policy

London, Mar. 5. Mr. Clement Attlee, former Labour Prime Minister, today blamed United States policy during the war for some of the trouble that has since arisen with Russia.

Mr. Attlee, who was Deputy Prime Minister in the wartime Coalition Cabinet headed by Mr. Winston Churchill, wrote in an article in the monthly magazine "The National and English Review."

"We supported Russia wholeheartedly in her resistance to Hitler but we were under no illusions as to possible developments after the war."

"The article — a review of a best-selling book, 'The Struggle for Europe' by a war correspondent, Chester Wilentz — criticised the way the Americans opposed exploitation of the Allied victories in Italy."

"The failure to press on with the attack from Italy left the deliverance of Central and South-Eastern Europe to the Russians. The same mistake was made later when American forces were halted and Czechoslovakia was not freed by the forces of Democracy," Mr. Attlee wrote.

WRONG ESTIMATE

Mr. Attlee went on to comment that the book showed how much Stalin gained at Yalta by the mistaken estimate of Russian reactions formed by President Roosevelt.

He wrote, "The President seems to have thought that Britain was, and that Russia was, an capitalist power."

"He failed to understand that the word 'capitalist' does not find a place in the Communist vocabulary."

"In the East and the West he made unnecessary concessions to the Russians for which we are all paying today."

"These concessions were given for nothing, for Russian help was not needed to defeat Japan, and in fact the Russians have profited in the Far East from victories won by the forces of Democracy." — Reuter.

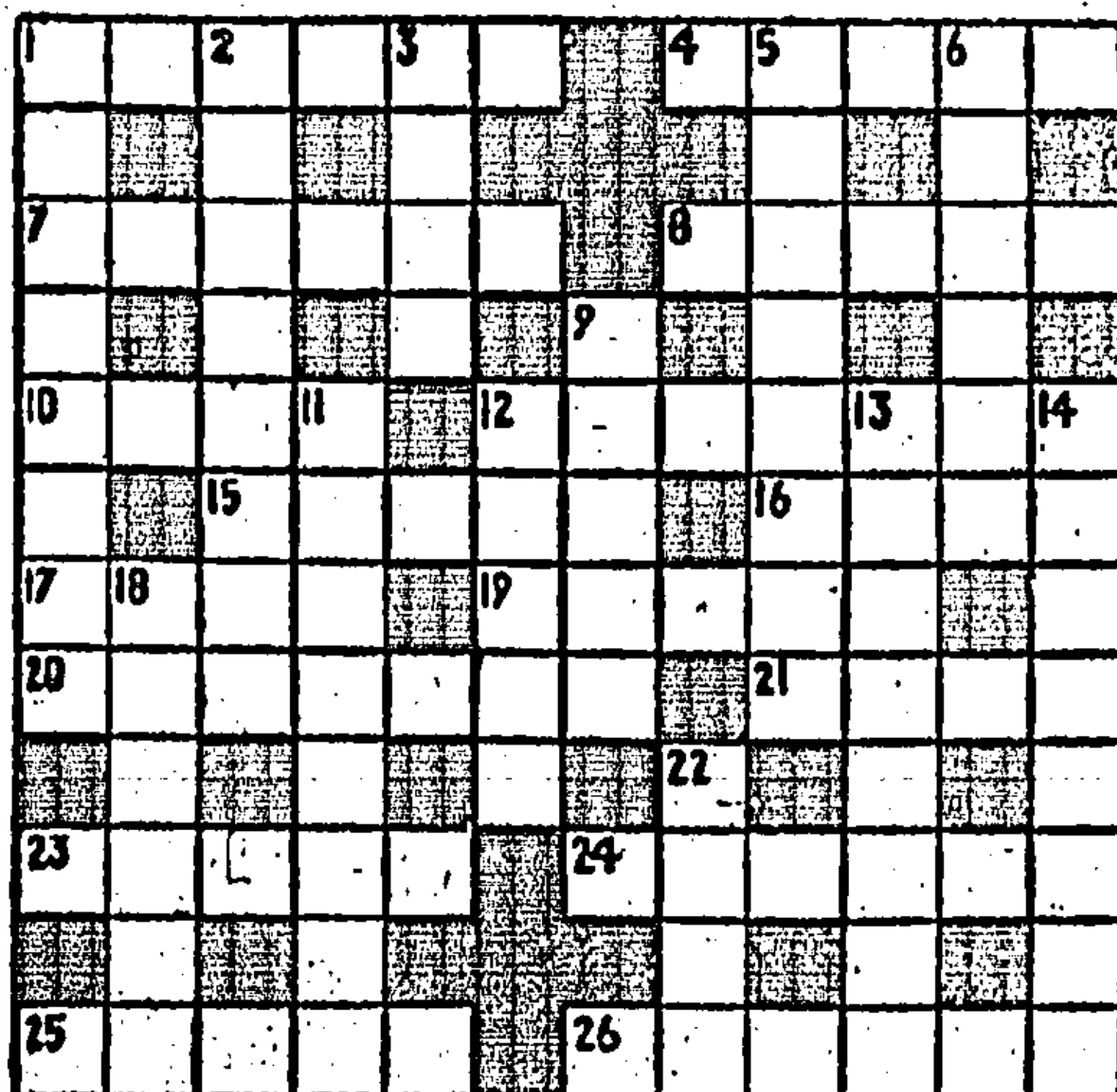
Clean-Up Plan Rejected

Washington, Mar. 5. The Expenditure Committee of the Senate today rejected President Truman's plan to reorganise the Internal Revenue Bureau — the outcome of nationwide criticism of corruption among tax officials.

The committee's decision is only a preliminary. The plan, already passed by the House of Representatives, now goes to the floor of the Senate for final approval.

The reorganisation plan was submitted to Congress in the middle of last month. It becomes effective unless rejected by either House within 60 days. — Reuter.

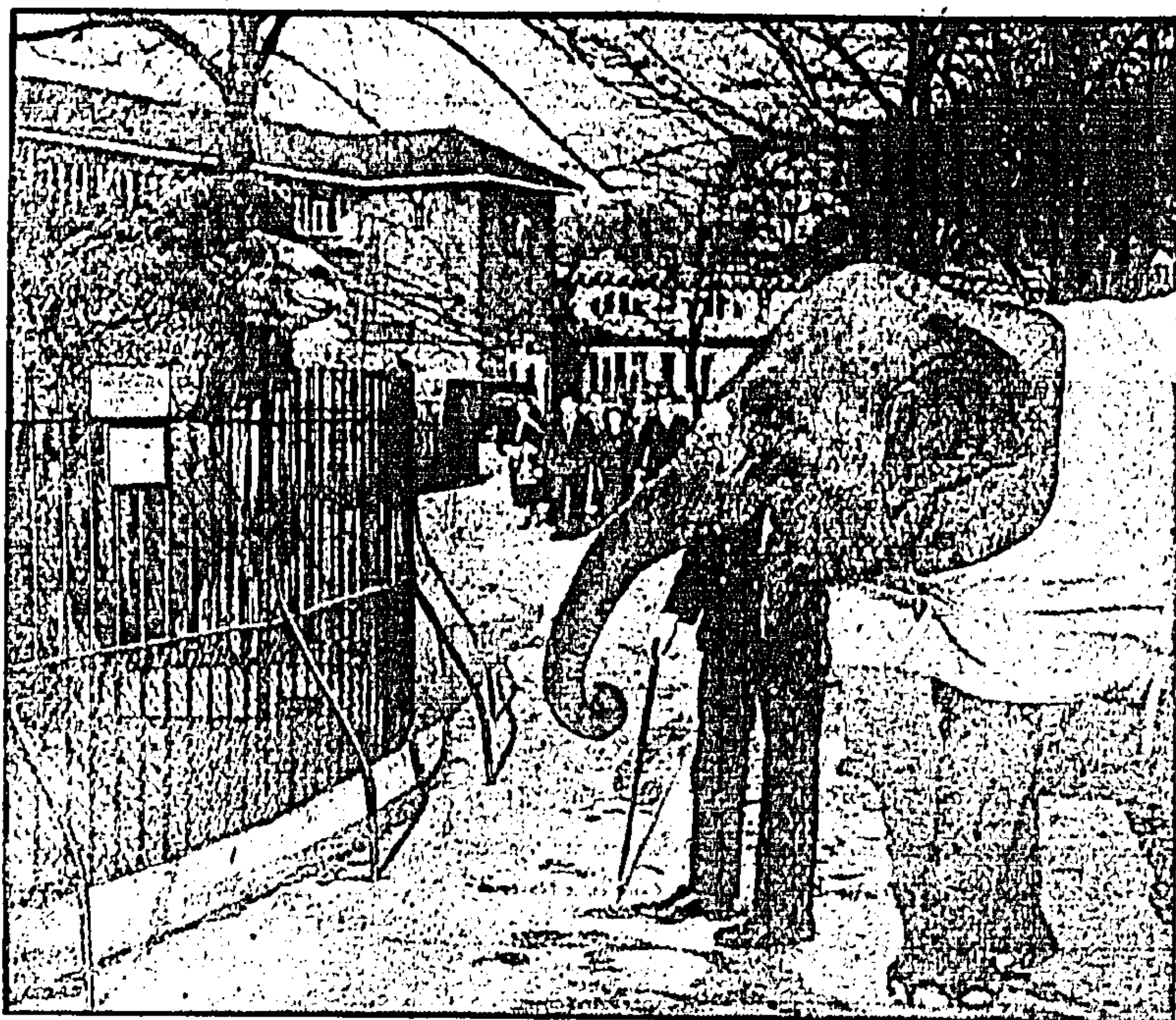
A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Fit for cultivation (6).
 - Bring about (5).
 - Damsel (6).
 - Rail (5).
 - Law of Odds (4).
 - Go abroad (7).
 - Symbol (5).
 - Vivacity (6).
 - Prophet (4).
 - Representative (6).
 - Goes quickly (7).
 - Row (4).
 - Purkin (5).
 - Famous singer (6).
 - Unused (5).
 - Niche (6).
- DOWN**
- Reprove (6).
 - Livens (8).
 - Right (4).
 - Clear (8).
 - Nep (6).
 - Charm (5).
 - Duple (5).
 - Invaded (5).
 - Heard (8).
 - Huge (8).
 - Church festival (6).
 - Cook (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD. — Across: 3 Shadowed, 8 Exotic, 9 Revoked, 11 Treaded, 12 Dene, 13 Stout, 18 Spoke, 19 Rout, 22 Disperse, 24 Particle, 25 Orange, 26 Swallow, Down: 1 Feely, 2 Score, 3 Siraku, 4 Heza, 5 Door, 6 Wither, 7 Dodged, 10 Fugue, 14 Opale, 18 Tapers, 19 Grapes, 17 Nurtis, 20 Frank, 21 Renew, 22 Dile, 23 Bow.

INTRODUCTION FOR RUSTY



Rusty, the new eight-year-old elephant from Ceylon, meets a camel at London Zoo. In May he will be starting on a new job of carrying children, and the tour of introduction is to accustom him to the animals he will pass on his route. — London Express Service.

PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED

New Delhi, Mar. 5. Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, told India's outgoing Parliament today that he hopes its newly-elected successor will help "build up the democratic structure of government at which we aim."

The Parliament was formally dissolved today.

Mr. Nehru will remain Prime Minister with a new Parliament in which his Congress Party holds a 55 per cent majority.

Communists and allied parties made strong gains in the elections for State parliaments, particularly in Southern India, however. — Associated Press.

The Minister of State, Mr. Salween Llyu, today announced that the BBC was curtailing its broadcasts in Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Norwegian and Portuguese.

He told the House of Commons that this was part of the country's economy campaign. The cuts were comparatively small, he added. — Reuter.

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Rumblings Of Discontent In Congress Over Aid To France THREAT OF CUTS

Washington, Mar. 5. The French Cabinet crisis was causing heavy reverberations in Congress tonight as President Truman prepared to ask for \$7,900,000,000 more to send overseas as defence and economic aid, mostly to Europe.

Mr. Truman is to send a special message on this subject to Congress tomorrow.

It will arrive at a moment when there must be discontent with the wartime rates of taxation loaded upon the American people recently and the huge Governmental deficit.

Many Congressmen are threatening to cut the foreign aid project sharply. The fall of the Faure Government over the issue of how to raise money for the French contribution to mutual defence furnished a focal point for Congressional complaints.

This was dramatised when Senator Tom Connally, most influential foreign affairs Member in Congress as Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, warned: "If France does not do her utmost in her own defence, we cannot justify large appropriations from the United States."

Some Congressmen are even wondering if France should revise its Congressional system. The Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, has been working strenuously to overcome discontent in Congress over the foreign aid project and related criticism of France.

STRONG STAND
President Truman is likely to take a strong stand on this, at least indirectly, in the speech which he will make to the nation tomorrow night defending the request.

Mr. Acheson said the French Government had worked out budgetary problems before and he was confident it would solve the present crisis.

He reiterated his faith in the ability of the French to resolve political difficulties. However, in contrast to Mr. Acheson's and Mr. Truman's positions was the stand of Representative James Richards, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Mr. Richards' counterpart in the Senate, Mr. Tom Connally.

NOT NORMAL
Mr. Richards said yesterday, "What we do to help can rightfully be predicated on what they do for themselves."

He told reporters that normally the United States would have no more right to tell the French how they must conduct politics than the French would have to dictate terms to the United States.

"But we are not in a normal situation," he added. "The difference now is that we are furnishing money they need for their own defence as well as for their contributions to the defence of Europe as a whole. They must try to understand our viewpoint on it." — United Press.

Cairo Threat To Market

Cairo, Mar. 5. The Egyptian Government today threatened to intervene in the cotton price deadlock unless traders reach a friendly solution by Saturday.

The Under-Secretary of State for Cotton Affairs said that the Government would impose a settlement if the traders did not agree.

Cotton, representing 90 per cent of Egypt's exports, slumped after the Government published a fixed price minimum on Feb. 18 — a measure designed to stimulate export business.

Business on the cotton futures market was suspended for three days to protect merchants from collapsing prices. It reopened yesterday when prices were allowed to fall by only one per cent of previous levels. But no business was done then or today at these prices. — Reuter.

Labour Peer Sees Franco

Madrid, Mar. 5. The Labour peer, Lord Strathclyde, had a 30-minute talk with General Franco today.

Chief Government Whip in the House of Lords for the period of Britain's post-war Labour Government, Lord Strathclyde is the first Labour personality to interview General Franco.

He said afterwards that the talk touched on world affairs in general. — Reuter.

Conscription In U.S. Thought To Be A Dead Issue

Washington, Mar. 5. Political observers said today that it is unlikely that the universal military training bill providing for compulsory military service for every American male at 18 will be revived in this presidential election year after its shelving in Congress last night.

According to Democrat Senator Ernest McFarland the Senate may try to get action again on the bill, which had been approved by the Committees of both Houses, of Congress when the House of Representatives put it aside last night in a series of complicated parliamentary manoeuvres.

The House of Representatives referred the Act, which would keep all youths on the reserve for seven and a half years after six months' full-time service, back to its Armed Services Committee by a vote of 236 to 162.

Observers thought that many Representatives found themselves in an embarrassing situation when confronted with the possibility that universal military training might become a reality in an election year.

The vote came at the end of a long six-hour debate. The House of Representatives, sitting as the Committee of the whole House, accepted a substitute proposal calling for compulsory military training only for high school boys in their final two years.

Immediately this was done the House, as a Committee, adjourned, as required under the rules of procedure, to report its action to the full House.

SPEAKER'S RULING
Then, a roll call vote was taken, reversing the decision in favour of the substitute proposal by 235 votes to 150 and having the effect of wiping it out altogether.

The Speaker, Mr. Sam Rayburn (Democrat), ruled that the business before the House after this vote was the original training bill in the form in which it was originally sent from the Defence Department before the Armed Services Committee, which approved the bill, proposed amendments to it.

He ruled that by adopting the substitute measure the House, sitting as the Committee of the whole, had rejected the amendments of the Armed Services Committee.

After Mr. Rayburn had given this ruling the debate ended. It is not expected that the bill will come up again this year. — Reuter.

BAN ON JAPS IN S'PORE

Singapore, Mar. 6. The Singapore Government has refused to admit 30 Japanese into the colony since the signing of the Japanese Peace Treaty.

Mr. J. L. J. Haxworth, Controller of Immigration, said the 30 applications were turned down in accordance with Singapore's laws which prohibit the entry of any Japanese except those in transit by sea or air.

Several Japanese have visited Singapore after the signing of the Treaty to discuss business with local merchants. They were all admitted as transit passengers. — Associated Press.

The Duke of Windsor arrived today on the liner Queen Elizabeth from England where he went for the funeral of his brother, King George VI.

The Duke was met by his wife who had remained here. They went by car to their suite at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

The Duke told newsmen, "I have no statement at all to make." — Associated Press.

ANGLO-U.S. PLANS FOR AIR BASE IN CYPRUS

London, Mar. 5. Britain and the United States are planning the joint use of a giant airfield under construction at Tymbou in the southern part of the island of Cyprus.

Discussions between the United States Air Force and the Royal Air Force were said to be in progress.

The base is apparently to be one of several to be built for the four-power Middle East Defence Command as well as Egypt, if she reverses her previous decision and joins the organisation as an equal partner.

Tymbou was an old Royal Air Force landing strip south of Nicosia. It was visited last month by American Air Force surveyors and engineers.

Technicians said the base would need much renovation to enable heavy jet aircraft to take off and return.

A petrol pipeline to Larnaca on the coast, 20 miles distant, would also have to be installed, the sources said.

Britain has already been enlarging military installations, barracks and air bases in Cyprus. In case Cyprus is chosen as an alternative base to the Suez Canal Zone, but the project at Tymbou is not part of the programme.

The United States and Britain were also said to be undertaking a fresh survey of possible bases for the exercise of sea and air power close to the Middle East and yet protected by sea.

Bases on the island of Rhodes and Crete with runways capable of taking the largest jet aircraft were also said to be under discussion. — United Press.

Windsor Back In New York

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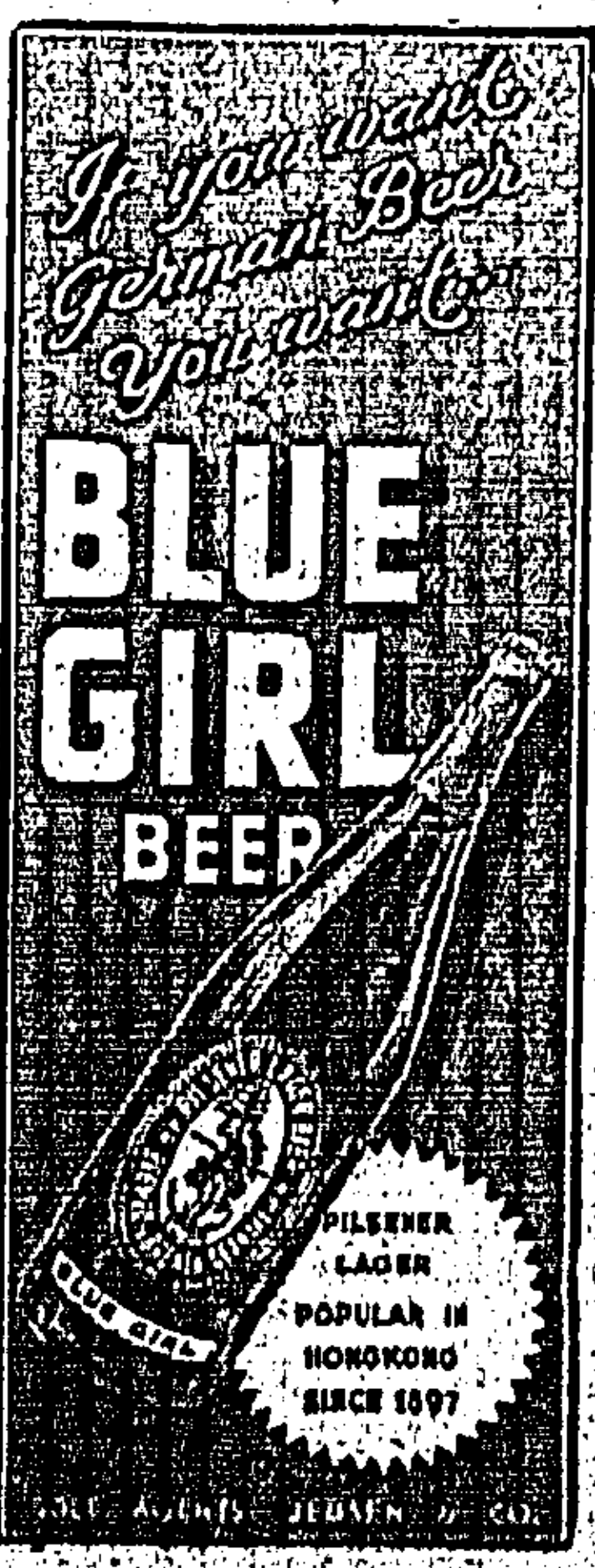
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Fred ASTAIRE
Peter LAWFORD

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best of all



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in check"

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by the exclusive filter tip. When you
open the gay scarlet tin, you are sure to
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for 11th March

The St. John Ambulance Association and
Brigade Annual Ball under the Distinguished
Patronage of His Excellency the Governor
and Lady Grantham, will be held on
TUESDAY, 11th MARCH at THE HONG-
KONG HOTEL.

You are requested to make your table
reservations as soon as possible at the
Reception Office, Hongkong Hotel.

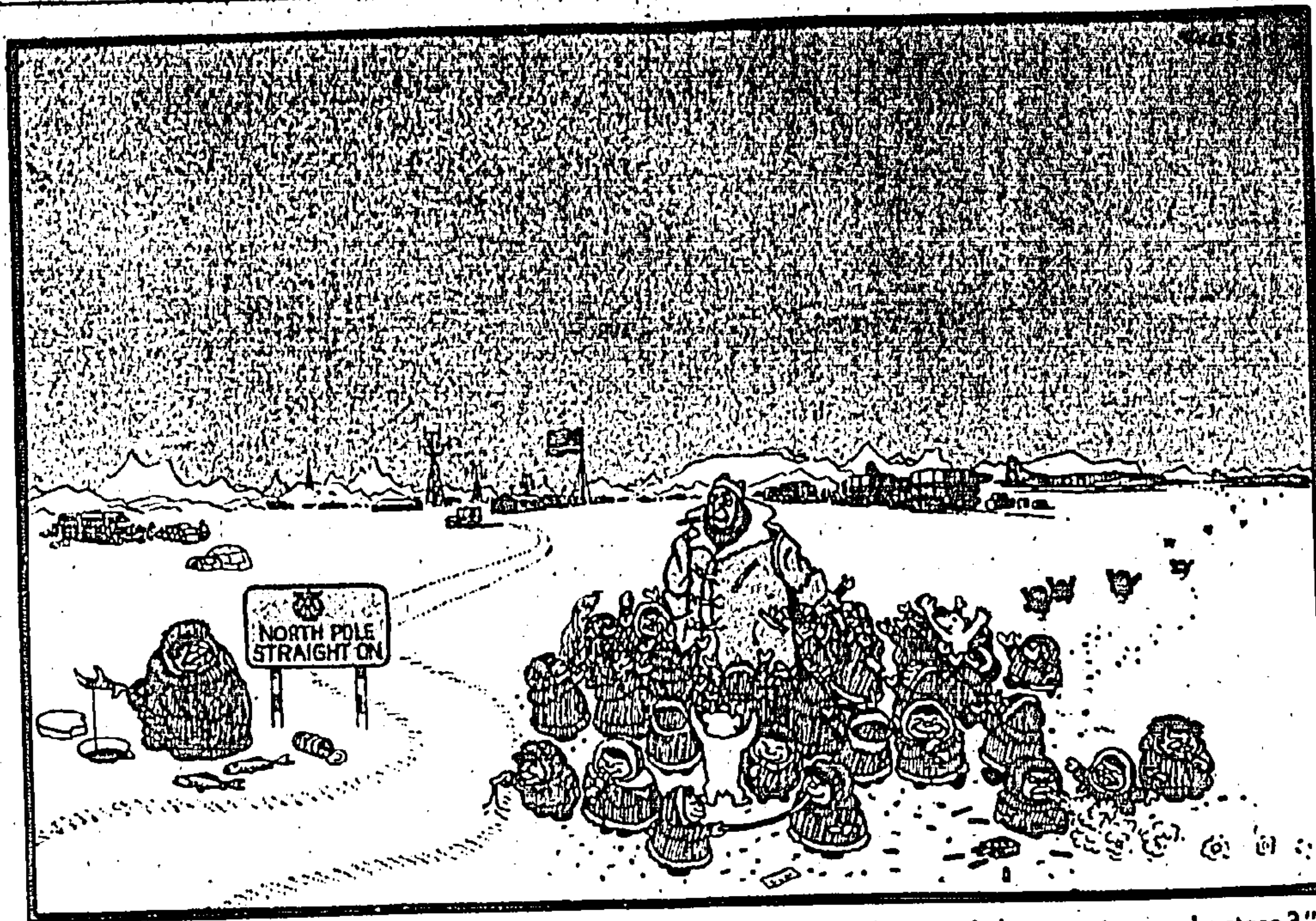
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These amended forms come into force on March 7th.



"Hey, Jack—would you mind explaining to your kids that we're opening an air base, not a candy store?"

London Express Service

DON IDDON'S DIARY

TOO MANY MEDIOCRE MEN GO KOWTOWING

New York, Tuesday.
DEEP from the heart of
Texas comes a mes-
sage from Colonel
Laurie Priesack, British
Vice-Consul at Dallas.
Colonel Priesack tells me
he is in a controversy with
the Dallas Morning News
and encloses cuttings to
prove it.

It seems that the Texas
newspaper called Britain
"a reluctant ally," alleged
that the British do not
want the United Nations to
win in Korea, and described
Mr Churchill as "an un-
happy receiver in bank-
ruptcy—the bankruptcy of
the British Empire."

This was too much for the
gallant colonel, who wrote and
told the Dallas Morning News
that it was talking "utter non-
sense."

Little eloquence

GOOD for Colonel Priesack! We
need more British officials
like him in the United States. He
is young, vigorous, a superb sales-
man for British goods, and a
spirited crusader for Britain.

Unfortunately, there are not
many like Colonel Priesack
representing the British here.
The departure of Lord
Halifax from Washington and the
transfer of Consul-General Sir
Francis Evans from New York to
Europe, there has been a decline
and a deterioration in our
representation.

We have too many mild and
mediocre men kowtowing and
genuflecting around the place.
There is hardly an eloquent
spokesman, apart from Sir
Gladwyn Jebb, among the
lot, and come to think of it,
there are an awful lot of British
officials here.

What do they all do? That is
the puzzle and the mystery.
Clearly they have been unable
to drive home the message to the
Americans that Britain has huge
forces fighting the Communists
in Malaya.

Equally, they have been unable
to persuade the citizens that
Britain's armament effort is two-
thirds of all Continental Europe's
combined.

Don't blame them

BUT their biggest failure con-
cerns the atom bomb. Not one
American in a thousand knows
that the bomb was developed by
British and Canadian scientists,
as well as Americans.
So when the other day it was
announced that Britain was
going to test her own atomic
weapon in Australia people here
said good-naturedly: "Well, I
see you've caught up—finally
you have invented a bomb of
your own."

My barber (the one who asked
me if the British had ever heard
of television) said: "I think it's
one of our American atom bombs
we've lent you—an old model,
probably just a little one we
turned out years ago, not a
brand-new 1952 job."

I said: "Watch the razor,
gentle, and so you know, your
friend, with I had you in this
chair."

But—I should not blame the
barber and hundreds of thousands
like him. No one has ever told
him, or them, that the original
bomb was as much a British as
an American invention. No one
ever tells them anything.

There is a full-page advertise-
ment appearing here entitled
"The Rubber Planter." It shows
a stalwart-looking character
walking through the jungle with
a gun under his arm, and under-
neath: "The Malayan rubber-
grower. He has refused to be
licked. He has produced record
tonnages of natural rubber for
our strategic stockpile. He
holds a front line in the
fight for freedom."

'Unsung' is right

BUT nowhere in all the glowing
text does it say that the
planter is British and the men
who are fighting the Red bandits
are British, that the soldiers are
British.

The people who inserted the
advertisement are from the
Natural Rubber Bureau of
Washington, D.C. Couldn't they
have given credit where it was
due?

The most truthful statement in
the entire announcement is the
sentence: "Unsung hero of a
four-year hot war against Com-
munist in Malaya maintaining an
outpost of freedom in South-East
Asia."

Unsung is right. Too many
successes go unsung here. Per-
haps we need some new, strong
voices in the choir.

Canada goes ahead

ANYWAY I am glad to see
Canada moving into her
place in the sun. The critics
who say that the British Empire
is bankrupt announce in the
same breath that Canada is the
world's great boom country,
humming with industry, spilling
over with wealth.

The United States has suddenly
discovered Canada. Surprise!
This pop-eyed wonder amuses
the good neighbours north of the
border, who have been doing very
well for a long, long time. Today
they are doing so well that
money is flowing into the
country.

Canada is the new haven of
smart capital. The international
money-men are putting their
bank-rolls on Canada and the
Canadians.

Why? Because the Canadian
dollar is now considered stronger,
sounder, more stable than the
American dollar. Recently, and it
was the first time in 10 years, the
Canadian dollar sold above the
American dollar in the free
currency markets of the world.

If you have any money, friends,
and the Government will let you
put it into Canada, put it into
the oilfields and the rich wheat-
fields and the richer mines. That
is what many Americans are
doing.

Taxes are rising

THE move, the swing, the
trend are to Canada. No
wonder. This week the new
American income-tax tables
were published, and it won't
be long before the United States
catches up with Britain.

I had dinner the other night
with a group of other night-
clubbers, and they said:
"It's confusion, that's what it
is."

High Tax Harry (President
Truman) soon won't be leaving
us enough for coffee and cakes."

I have a varied post-bag this
week, including three cables
from readers asking me to send
the new anti-tuberculosis pills.
These are not on sale until
June, and I am not allowed to
send them through the mails,
anyway.

I do hope people will not
build their hopes too high on
this drug. The announcement
was premature, according to my
doctor, and many medical men
are sceptical.

In entertainment

ON Broadway there have
been two feeble offerings
—"Mrs McThing," by Mary
Chase, who wrote "Harvey,"
and "Dear Barbarians," by
Lorinda Richards.

"Mrs McThing" is a dreary
thing, dreadfully poor compared
with "Harvey." This time our
author failed to pull the rab-
bit out of the hat.

The Sadler's Wells Theatre
Ballet is due in New York next
month after six successful
months touring Canada and
the United States.

Elsa Lanchester is adorning
"The Blue Angel" here, making
almost as much money as her
husband, Charles Laughton.

American censors are object-
ing to the daring costume worn
by Britain's Diana Dors in the
film "Lady Godiva Rides
Again." Well, it's less daring
than the one worn by the
original lady.

Hollywood is fuming over
author Graham Greene's state-
ment that it is under a reign
of terror. However, it seems
too terrified to do much about
it.

Englishman Richard Greene
at last gets a good part and
will star in a suspense drama,
"The Black Castle."

FOOTNOTE: If the Com-
munist would see reason, mil-
lions of British and Americans
would breathe a sigh of relief—
tax relief.

Book On Royal Stamps Will Cost 60 Guineas

By J. W. Taylor

A NEW fillip to the old
hobby of stamp col-
lecting will be given by the
coming publication of one of
the most complicated and
authoritative books for
philatelists—an account of
King George the Fifth's
collection, one of the finest
and biggest in the world,
which, it is expected, will
be continued by the Queen.

The account is mainly the
work—it has taken five years—
of Sir John Wilson, a barrister,
who for thirteen years has been
keeper of the King's philatelic
collection. He has been in
charge of the 330 Royal stamp
albums, a collection founded and
fostered largely as the result
of the enthusiasm of King George
V, and puts the total value at
a million pounds.

Sir John's account will re-
produce many of the King's col-
lected stamps in a special colour
process, and although it will
have a world-wide sale among
collectors, only the moneyed
ones will be able to afford it,
for it will cost sixty guineas.

Almost every subject has been
on stamps, ranging from the
birth of Christ, Rachel's Tomb,
and the Ten Commandments, to
Lady Godiva. Birth rate devel-
opment, and nudes, and they
have been used for a variety of
purposes, including money.
Stamps were accepted as legal
tender during the cash shortage
in the American Civil War, and
in 1916 Russia issued three por-
trait stamps printed on cards
inscribed: "Having circulation
on a par with silver subsidiary
coins." They purchased goods

from State shops, but were later
authorised for postal value. In
1919-20 Latvia used stocks of
Bolshevik bank notes, printing
stamps on the reverse side.

In the War of Nerves, stamps
were a nightmare for the Ger-
man Gestapo of 1943, when the
Himmler stamp turned up in
neutral countries. Apparently
posted in Germany, complete
with postmarks and date stamp,
ed, they were exactly replicas of
the Underground Forces' issue
of the Hitler skeleton head
series, except that Himmler's
portrait replaced that of Hitler's.

There were reproductions in
neutral newspapers and stories
that Himmler was to displace
Hitler. For months the Gestapo
were busy destroying as many
of the stamps as they could lay
hands on.

★

The French Occupation Au-
thorities in the Saar issued a
series of "Industrial scenes, on
stamps to impress Saarlanders,
but the German designer, and
Nazi, let them down. He can-
nily concealed a portrait of
Hitler hidden between the legs
of the portrayed metallurgical
worker on the 16 pfennig value,
which was seen when the stamp
was turned upside down. He
was promptly noticed and the re-
mainder of the issue burned.

In the last war the Under-
ground Resistance Movement
issued a 12 pfennig stamp em-
bellished with the Hitler skele-
ton head to undermine Nazi
morale. This mysteriously found
itself on letters going through
the post on entertainment pro-
grammes, posters, and news-
papers, and even on high official
Nazi documents.

Another grisly Death's Head
issue popped up in Espirito
Santo, which was besieged by
the German Army in 1918. Seek-
ing to evoke a valiant spirit in
the defenders, the German
issued a special stamp de-
signed with a skull and cross-
bones, and inscribed: "Liberty
or Death. Defend our Country."

★

The issue of stamps in the
Sudan in 1898 offended the
Muslims, who averred that the
quadrifoliate watermark repre-
sented the sign of the Cross and
refused to lick the gummed
backs. Soon all was peace with
the issue of stamps with the
Crescent, the sign of the Prophet,
in the watermark.

Backs of stamps have been
used by manufacturers to adver-
tise their wares, and soap was
extolled on some early stamps
in Britain. In 1895, Portugal
produced a series bearing a
prayer in Latin on the back.

The world's rarest stamp is
the one-cent British Guiana of
1850. Originally printed in
Georgetown, the capital, it re-
mained unknown for 16 years,
when it was by chance unearthed
by a boy collector. It changed
hands several times and was
eventually bought for £2,750 by
Arthur Hind in 1922. His widow
later sold it for £213,000.

In 1918 a collector walked in-
to a Washington post office and
bought a sheet of the newly-
issued first USA 24-cent air mail
stamp. He found that they were
printed upside down and sold
them to a Philadelphia stamp
syndicate for \$2,000. They
waited until it was certain that
no more of these were in exis-
tence, then they cashed in on
them for \$75,000.

By DON TAYLOR

NOW (OR NEVER) YEAR FOR EMPIRE

AS the new reign begins,
so too begins the Em-
pire's year of opportu-
nity.

A young Queen comes to
the throne at the opening
of a dazzling period of de-
velopment and change.

Within the next 12
months, we may see the
foundations laid for five
new Dominions.

Or we may see, instead,
some of them drift outside
the Empire while others are
bogged down in indecision.

In Central Africa, black
men and white are split
asunder over the question
of a federation which would
lead to a Dominion of
RHODESIA.

In the Caribbean, the
hoped-for Dominion of the
WEST INDIES recedes
into the distance—largely
because the key colony of
British Guiana is against
it.

Suspicious

IN MALAYA, Chinese and
and Malays are still
watchful and suspicious of
each other.

In the SUDAN, set now
on the road to self-govern-
ment, there are politicians
who want a republic, others
who want a tie-up with
Egypt. But now, a party
working for Dominion
status has been formed.

In the GOLD COAST, there
is talk of Mr Nkrumah becom-
ing our first African Prime
Minister—and of Dominion
status being within reach.

Turn now to migration. Is it
to be the beginning of the long-
awaited dispersal of manpower
which must link up with any
economic plan—or just a mass
escape from Britain?

This year Australia expects
to gain at least 65,000 Britons.

Extra ships

CANADA hopes for a big in-
crease in the number of
British settlers this year. Seventy
migrants every week will fly
from Britain.

An extra 30 ships will sail
from British ports, and negotia-
tions for still more are in pro-
gress.

In New Zealand, there is rising
support for mass migration.

In South Africa there is con-
stant pressure on the Govern-
ment to take in many thousands
more settlers each year.

Northern Rhodesia is expected
to start State-aided migration.
It is in communications that
we will see the most dramatic
Empire change.

In May the Comet jet air-liner
starts regular passenger service.
And new "tourist rates" are
being introduced on the North
Atlantic routes.

Air plans

ALL over the Empire new air-
fields, roads and railways
are planned.

It could be that the vision of
men like Cecil Rhodes is becom-
ing reality—that every part of
the Empire is becoming inter-
linked.

Everywhere there is evidence
of a great surge of development.
CANADA—also, with the
Americans as chief partners—
presses on with increasing vigour
in developing her mighty
resources in oil, uranium, iron
ore, timber, and other riches.

NEW ZEALAND launches
her greatest single industrial
enterprise—the £220,000 pulp,
timber, and newsprint project.

AUSTRALIA has her Snowy
Mountains project, India such
schemes as Bhakra-Nangal,
which will irrigate 6,000,000
acres of desert and turn on
450,000kw of electric power.

Hunt is on

ALL over the Empire, the hunt
for raw materials is on, with
expedition already in the field
or ready to start.

But two things are necessary
if Britain and the Empire are to
win their way to lasting
prosperity.

From the discussions now pro-
ceeding between Empire re-
presentatives on trade and de-
velopment, and the future of
the £, there must come a great
Council of the Empire, which
will set up a Council of
Empire to plan our future as a
whole.

Every man and woman in the
Empire—and most of all in
Britain—must work as they have
never worked before to produce
raw materials and manufactured
goods for each other. We must
find our salvation in our own
resources and abilities.

A CHALLENGE

TO THE NEW

ELIZABETHANS

by THE ARCHBISHOP
OF CANTERBURY

THE QUEEN captures us all
by her clear shining grace
and goodness, by her youth and
readiness for gallant service, by
sincerity and devotion.

Is that not a challenge to all
good citizens to be more active
in their service?

And to all indifferent citizens
to lay aside their indifference
and lack of conviction and lack
of spiritual effort?

And the bad spouses and bad
parents to become faithful
spouses and dutiful parents?

And to all the self-seekers
and spiritual parasites to be-
come workers for the common
good and contributors to the
common stock of spiritual
power and obedience to truth?

Does not everything call to
us—our memory of a good
King, our devotion to a young
Queen, our nation's greatness
and its need?

Will not the Press and all
the organs of publicity, so
powerful in these days, will not
public opinion as it passes from
mind to mind and mouth to
mouth, lead us in this reform-
ation—expelling the drab
and the tawdry, the sordid and
the malicious, the sordid and
the sexy, the trivial and the
trampy, and the assumption
that everyone's main end in
life is for more money, more
clothes, more amusement?

A challenge like this could
not be made without a return
to religion and Church.

Here, too, let there be a re-
formation as eager, as Scrip-
ture, as comprehensive, as
creative as the Reformation
under the first Elizabeth.

I believe there is a movement
towards it and a reaching out
for it. But at the present it is
a little chameleoned and hesitant.

We shall best honour our
King, we shall best uplift our
Queen, we shall best serve our
nation if we make a new net-
work of faith, of obedience, of dis-
cipline, of discipleship to God.

Here, for the nation is the
watchword, as it was for the
King:—

In God is my health and my
plory; the rock of my might,
and in God is my trust.

JACOBY
ON BRIDGEKeep Lead Away
From Opponent

NORTH 15	
♠ 1032	
♥ Q109	
♦ A9	
♣ 543	
WEST	
♠ Q85	♠ 874
♥ 4	♥ 532
♦ 10987	♦ K53
♣ A86	♣ QJ10
SOUTH (D)	
♠ AK	♠ AKJ76
♥ 42	♥ 42
♦ K72	♦ K72
Both sides vul.	
South	West
Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass
Opening lead—♠ 10	

By OSWALD JACOBY

SOUTH played today's hand on the theory that East had to be kept out of the lead. He had the right idea, since East would have been delighted to win a trick and return the queen of clubs through South's king.

West opened the ten of diamonds, and dummy won with the ace. Declarer cashed the ace and king of spades and entered dummy with the nine of hearts to lead the lack of spades. When East played low, South discarded his remaining diamond through East.

East put up the king of diamonds, and South ruffed. Declarer then entered dummy with the queen of hearts to discard a club on the jack of diamonds. At this point the contract was assured, since South had lost only one trick and was sure of losing no more than two club tricks.

South's play of the hand was not only an example of keeping the dangerous opponent (East) out of the management of trumps, but also showed careful management of dummy's entries. South had drawn even one round of trumps before beginning the spades, he would have been set.

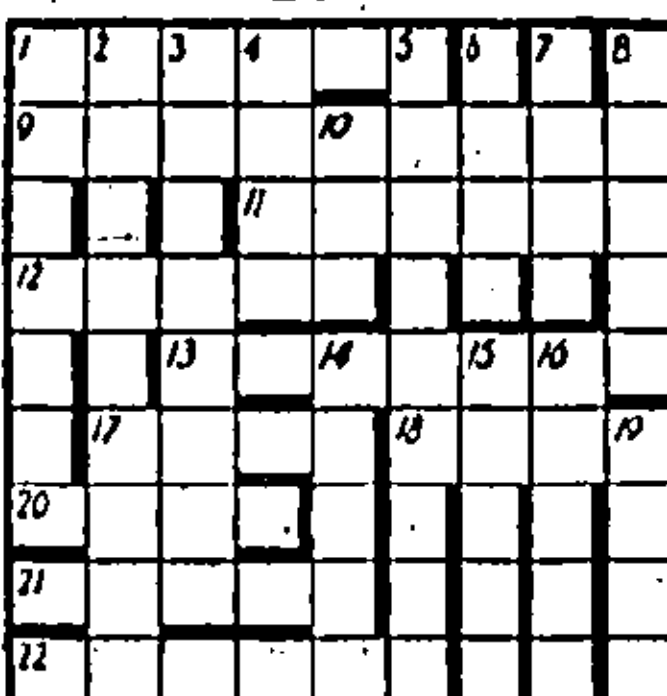
For example, suppose South takes one round of trumps at the second trick, and then cashes the ace and king of spades. He must then enter dummy with the ten of hearts to lead the lack of spades. West will win the queen of spades, as before, and return a spade to allow East to ruff.

South's plan of discarding a club and entering dummy with the queen of hearts to lead the lack of spades, he cannot get back to dummy for the purpose of cashing the jack of diamonds. This line of play obliges him to lead clubs even-ly from his own hand in which case the defenders can take three club tricks.

TODAY'S QUESTION
The bidding is the same as in the question last week. You South hold: Spades A-K-7-3-2, Hearts A-K-3, Diamonds K-J-7, Clubs A-J-3. What do you bid?

Answer Tomorrow

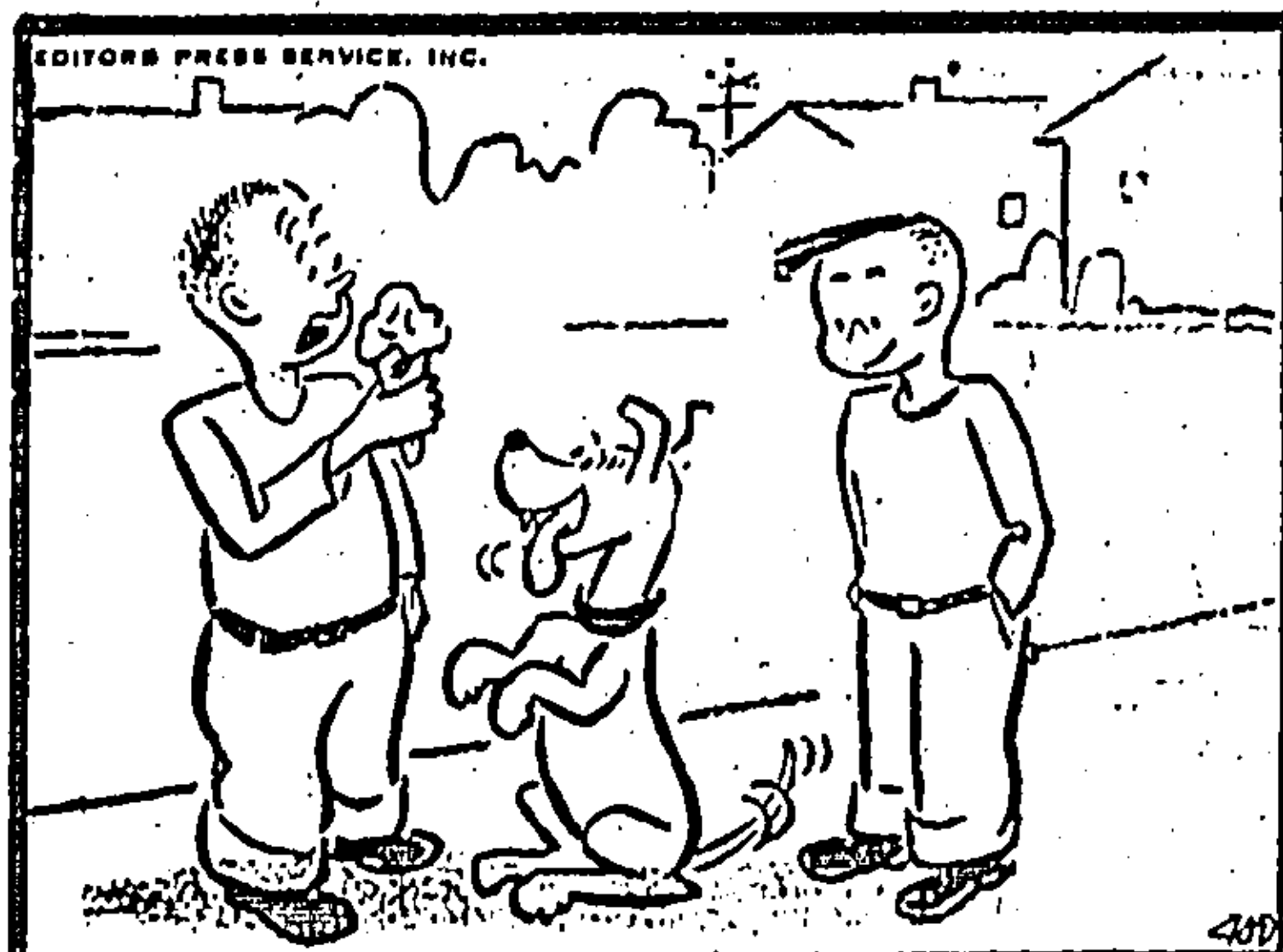
CROSSWORD



Across
1. This bird gets an equal start but ends in decay. (6)
10. It is the vernacular. (9)
11. A dominatrix principle. (5)
13. A letter joins two vehicles into one. (7)
14. In the main, it's deep. (6)
15. Collected. (3)
16. A letter away. (4)
17. Where you may find tips. (4)
18. In the main, it's deep. (6)
19. Collected. (3)
20. A letter away. (4)
21. Where you may find tips. (4)
22. Examine in detail. (6)

Down
1. His progress was eloquent. (7)
2. What makes one faint? (6)
3. Make a fool of. (8)
4. Sticks. (4)
5. Sort of person to prove Kate vital. (9)
6. Steam a letter away. (4)
7. Where you may find tips. (4)
8. In the main, it's deep. (6)
9. Collected. (3)
10. A letter away. (4)
11. Where you may find tips. (4)
12. Examine in detail. (6)

DUMB BELLS



"Man's best friends, especially when the man happens to be eating something."

BY THE WAY
by Beachcomber

EGG-CUP makers are notorious for their quietude. They are not likely to take kindly to the news that wooden egg-cups are being made which will last 100 years.

In the Placement Section at the great egg-cup factory near Basingstoke, the angry designers, moulders, shapers, carvers, and finishers, suddenly and loudly protesting. The hideous nightmare of Things Which Will Last Longer has singled them out for its first victim. Boldly, stamp-collecting, broad-fronted Sir Dursley Gaekwytne, probably the biggest name in the egg-cup world, said yesterday: "This is bad news, just when we had perfected the new-plastic egg-cup which can be thrown away after each meal."

Twenty Years of Upstart
The headline "Wet Sock Thrown At Conductor" took me back to the Salzburg Festival of 1932, when, in ducking to avoid the dripping macintosh thrown by a young Czech student, Herr Durand lost his balance and fell from the rostrum like a rotten apple into the lap of a lady violinist. The macintosh swathed itself round Rudizguiz's head, and temporarily silenced that noisier of mammals. A second wet macintosh, thrown by a jovial tourist, became draped over the harp, so that the harpist, gingerly pulling a corner of the sudden coat, looked like a photographer in action.

However, I notice that the headline referred to a man who fell into a ditch, and threw his sock at the conductor of a bus. If only I were not so obsessed with art, I should have said on before writing this.

Deep in the City
True circles is the question of the restoration of convertibility—harsh music in the great flapping ears of the International Monetary Fund. For if you abolish control of capital transfer you lay yourself open to the charge of hoarding sterling and meddling with exchange control. Pedants can prove that if the retail index rises seven or eight points it will be overtake wage rates. But the practical answer to all this is that the pound would look after itself in a free economy, and you cannot expect to cut current expenditure if you persist in regarding disinflation as an academic question.

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

BORN today, you men and women appear to differ little from the rest of the race. You are more inclined to be practical, strong-willed and efficient at fuel-finding, you women are romantic, intuitive and have what could be called an artistic temperament. You have a good head for business matters. While you may not be as strong and hard-headed as the men, you know very well where you want to go and usually get there. A strong mind is hidden behind a very bland exterior.

When it comes to romance, both you men and women must be exceptionally careful. Look well before you leap into matrimony, for unless you find that "only one" who understands your rather complicated personality there can be—consider the unhappiness in store. Mated to the right one, however, there can be exceptional contentment and joy. Your home and family ties are strong and "your own" can never be wrong. Don't let this blind your judgment in critical matters. Be fair to others, and you are said to be a wonderful friend, but a bitter and difficult enemy! Never hold a grudge. Learn to forgive and forget. Remembering the errors of the past can only make the present unhappy and the future uncertain. Always be constructive in your criticism.

To find what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

VIRGO (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Avoid being distracted. Keep your eyes on your objective and drive straight toward it.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Set efficient work, well done, should now bring praise. It could also indicate a pay raise.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Get in touch with someone who is dear to you. Write or telephone if you can't pay a visit.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Your intuitions can be trusted today in solving a problem that comes up for decision.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—If you have been neglecting a responsibility, take care of it today.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—If a harsh word has unwittingly hurt another's feelings, apologize and make amends.
ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Guard your valuables to avoid loss today. Carelessness can prove disastrous.
Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)—Relax this evening. There are times when you should forget business worries.
GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—A good day for almost anything. Renew friendships, do some shopping, or make business progress.
CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Be careful to avoid overexpansion of resources. Investigate carefully first.
LEO (July 24-Aug. 24)—Systematize your work go more easily and more efficiently. Get a lot done that way.
VIRGO (Aug. 25-Sept. 23)—A newcomer in the neighborhood may call for some assistance. Be co-operative.

White, 12 pieces.
White to play: mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. K-R7, 1... PxP; 2. R-Q4;
1... P-K16; 2. KxP (ch);
1... R or PxK; 2. Q-KK18.

Intelligence Test
Six square miles
By T. O. HARE
A settler in the island of Heligoland applied to the Governor for a parcel of land in the low-lying part of the island. The parcel was 6 miles longer, and the other side was 6 miles wide. The applicant duly selected and measured the land in accordance with these conditions. But he got away with 36 square miles more than the Governor had anticipated. What was the area of the selected "rectangle"?

(Solution on Page 10)

Check Your Knowledge
1. Parsimonious is (a) scrupulously frugal, (b) straight-laced, (c) excessively frugal or (d) intelligent? Which is the correct answer?
2. What do you mean by the phrase "Davy Jones' Locker"?
3. What is the boiling point in a Fahrenheit thermometer scale?
4. In what countries is the krona used as currency?
5. What section of the Pacific does Micronesia embrace?
6. What is the Dutch term of address for "sir or madam"?

(Answers on Page 10)

Fashion
Formula

Silk afternoon dress.

By VERA WINSTON

BEAUTIFUL fabrics, simply but effectively styled, is the formula adopted by many designers because a good dress of this type can do plenty of duty and always look right. One such model is this frock of pure silk taffeta in a striking shade of red. The long slim sleeves offer challenging contrast to the open neckline. The bodice is snugly buttoned in a slanting line, the full skirt is tucked top. Fullness of skirt is further emphasised by a stiffened petticoat.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Christopher Sees A Light

—And Finds the Pumpkins Are Having a Party—

By MAX TRELL

"FUNNY things happen at night," Christopher Cricket said.

Knarf and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, knew this meant that Christopher had a story to tell. So they asked him please to explain some more.

"Well," said Christopher as he made himself comfortable on the loose brick at the side of the fireplace, "there must be something about the darkness and the moonlight and the aloneness and the stillness of the night-time that makes funny things happen. At any rate, the things that happen at night don't seem to happen in the daytime."

How to Begin

Christopher paused for a moment or two as though thinking about how to begin his story. Presently he started.

"It was rather sharp and windy last night, with a touch of winter in the air. I was wondering whether it was worth-while to go outside with my bat and play a song or two. For I couldn't be too sure that anybody would be out to listen to me. And what's the use of playing songs if there's nobody to listen to them? I said to myself, when all at once I thought I caught a glimpse of a light out in the field where the pumpkins are growing."

"Now it struck me as strange that there should be any light in the pumpkin field. What would pumpkins need with a light? They don't do any reading at night. They don't do anything but just lie on the ground. At any rate, I had just about decided that I must have been mistaken about seeing a light, when all of a sudden I saw it again."

"You really did, Christopher?" asked Hanid.

Several Lights

"This time I was sure of it," Christopher nodded. "In fact, there seemed to be more than one light. There were several lights. They were moving slowly around, some going one way, some going the other way, but all of them staying inside the pumpkin field. Or, rather, the lights (if lights they were) appeared to be walking around the fence."

"But Christopher," Knarf exclaimed, "how could lights be walking around the field?"

"That's it!" said Christopher. "I wondered at that myself. I became so puzzled that I finally decided to go and see for myself. So off I went, taking my bat with me just in case it might be a birthday party or something. For the more I looked at the lights, the more I began thinking that they looked like lanterns."

"Anyway, I started for the pumpkin field. And as I got closer, I saw to my astonishment that the lights were really faces."

"Faces!" cried Hanid.

"What—what kind of faces?" asked Knarf.

"Pumpkin—sort of—faces," Christopher Cricket replied. "I made out round eyes, and

WOMANSENSE

THERE'S A WAY IN
WASHING WOOL SOCKS

By ELEANOR ROSS

MANY a man is gladdened by a fine assortment of first-quality wool socks, a favourite gift. Then it's up to Mother or the "little woman" to do right by her menfolk and the socks, by taking proper care of the wool hose.

Socks should be washed after every wearing, since body acids and the salts in perspiration tend to weaken wool fibres. Hence, perspiration should be washed out before it dries.

Hot Water Shrinks

Hot water is the number one enemy to the successful washing of wool socks, as many a beginner at the job has discovered. This is because it increases shrinkage and it can also be harmful to the dyes. Water should be lukewarm (95° to 100° F.). A drop of tepid water flecked onto the best testing spot, the wrist, matches our usual body heat (98.6° F.) and therefore feels neither unduly hot or cold.

The best cosmetic

There is no cosmetic for beauty like happiness.

—(Lady Blessington)

An all-purpose special detergent is good for washing woolen socks, since it works so well in lukewarm water, and it eliminates the need for water softeners, necessary in so many areas. Water softeners are alkaline, and an alkali doesn't do wool any good.

Speedy Washing

Never, never soak socks, but wash speedily, first on the wrong side, then on the right side. Work quickly, keeping socks lively. Keep socks under water while washing, squeezing the socks through the wool, rather than friction-rubbing.

Lift, rather than pull the socks out of the suds, so that water-weight won't distort their shape. Squeeze gently to remove suds, never wring or twist. Keep temperature of rinse waters the same as suds water—no hotter, no colder.

When rinsed, roll socks in turkish towel to knead out extra moisture. Hand-smooth the socks gently into shape on a drying rack, or work gently onto special forms if you have them.

Dry socks quickly in a warm place, but not where air circulates freely. Never dry any wool garments, from socks to blankets, adjacent to radiators or risers.

FINE CHECK FOR SPRING



This British designed suit for spring is in navy tropical worsted with a fine white line check.

—(London Express Service)

CASSEROLE OF VEAL
AND ONIONS

THE Chef set a large parcel on the test-kitchen table.
"At last my dream has come true," he exclaimed. In America I have found on sale the casserole dishes merveilleux like those used by the best chefs in France, Belgium and Scandinavia. Perfect to transmit the cooking heat. Glamorous for service at the table. Regard, Madame.

Dinner
Cabbage and Green Pepper Salad
French Casserole of Veal and Onions
Flaky Rice
Stewed Peas
Oatmeal Kuchen
Coffee Tea or Milk
All Measurements Are Level
Recipes Serve Four

French Casserole of Veal And Onions

Cut 2 lbs. breast of veal in bite-sized pieces. Melt 2 tbs. margarine in a frying pan and brown the veal in it. Add 2 tbs. enriched flour; cook and stir until it browns. Gradually pour in 3 c. boiling water. Add 2 chicken or beef bouillon cubes, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1/4 tsp. monosodium glutamate and 1/4 tsp. pepper. Add a "bouquet garni," 12 peeled small onions, and 1/4 lb. sliced mushrooms or 1 (4 oz.) tin sliced mushrooms with the liquid.

Cover; bring to a brisk boil; then transfer to a casserole. Slow-bake 1 1/2 hrs. Remove the "bouquet garni." Serve with flaky rice.

Oatmeal Kuchen

The Kuchen: Soak 1/2 c. uncooked rolled oats in 1 c. milk 15 min. in a mixing bowl combine 1/4 c. softened shortening, 1/2 c. brown sugar and 1 egg, grade A, B or C. Stir in the rolled oats and milk. Sift together 1 c. enriched flour, 3 tsp. baking powder and 1/4 tsp. salt. Add 1/2 c. fine-chopped nuts, any kind. Add to the first mixture stirring only to blend. Pour into a greased 8" square pan cover with the topping. Bake in a hot oven, 400 F. for 25 min., or until a toothpick, when inserted in the centre, comes out clean.

The Chef Explains "Bouquet Garni"

A "bouquet garni" consists of 2 or 3 sprigs of parsley, a bayleaf and a sprig of thyme tied together so they can be easily removed.

Round Eyes
"Pumpkin—sort of—faces," Christopher Cricket replied. "I made out round eyes, and

WARDROBE ITEMS

By GRACE THORNCLEIFFE

Clothes items this season are both practical and pretty. A nice head slattery combines a halo of crocheted flower motifs with a jersey kerchief, to tie under the chin or to be wrapped about the throat. It is done in a beautiful shade of violet. The capelet gloves have stitching on the back that copies the lines on the palm of the hand, a most novel decoration. The calfskin low-heeled shoes have stitched edges and an instep strap. Quite a fancy model is the sweater blouse fashioned of fine imported silk printed in red and blue on white, with navy ribbon at the neck, sleeves and waist for a novel detail.



Rupert and the Pine Ogre—26



ARSENAL & PORTSMOUTH FOR THE CUP FINAL?

By PETER DITTON

Earlier this year in an article on the FA Cup I named three teams I expected to do well in the competition. One of them, Blackpool, was knocked out in the third round by West Ham. But the remaining two, Arsenal and Portsmouth, are both safely through to Round Six.

They both have a good chance of winning their games, Arsenal at Luton and Portsmouth at home to Newcastle and if they can avoid each other in the semi-final draw I should not be surprised to see both reach Wembley.

Cup holders Newcastle are certainly being made to fight for the right to retain the trophy. They had a difficult first round game with Aston Villa and after that were drawn away to League Champions Tottenham.

Newcastle boss Stanley Seymour remarked before this game that the winners would go to Wembley. Well, Newcastle won by two goals to nil and then visited Swansea where, rather luckily, they won by the only goal of the match.

Now they have to visit Portsmouth, twice League Champions since the war and FA Cup semi-finalists three seasons ago. In the League this season, Portsmouth and Newcastle have met on one occasion, Portsmouth winning 3-1 at Fratton Park.

It will indeed be the match of the round when they meet on March 8. Particularly interesting will be the clash between International centre-half Jack Froggatt and International centre-forward Jackie Milburn.

Both are strong candidates for the England team to play Scotland on April 5 at Hampden Park and whoever wins the Fratton Park duel will probably win his way to another 'cup'.

The thrust of the Newcastle forward line has been instrumental in their success thus far this season as it was last. But in Portsmouth the Newcastle forwards may meet their match. The all-International home half-back line of Dickinson, Froggatt and Scouler is very nearly the

best, if not the best, in the country. And full-backs Forster and Gunter are little if anything behind them in ability.

TOO MUCH AT STAKE

It promises to be a close game. I doubt if it will reach classic standards for there is too much at stake. But the ingredients are there. And I stick by my original forecast that Portsmouth will get through to the semi-final.

Arsenal, the other side I expected to do well, have again been fortunate in the draw. They are away to Luton, which means that this far in the competition they have not met any First Division opponents.

Their progress, to refresh your memory, has been via Norwich City (5-0), Barnsley (4-0) and Leyton Orient (3-0). They are the only side remaining in the competition who have not had a goal scored against them.

Luton have battled gamely to reach Round Five. They had two replays against Brentford in Round Four, having previously disposed of Charlton, one of the five London clubs in the First Division. In the last round they defeated Swindon, conquerors of Cardiff City and Stoke.

Having travelled so far in the competition, Luton are not without hope. What they did to one London side they feel they can do to another.

Yet, Cup ties apart, the Luton home record is not impressive. Of fifteen games to date they have won but five and have lost four.

Perhaps they can pull out that little extra for the tie with Arsenal but tradition says a win for the Londoners. In the only previous Cup games with Luton they have won on both occasions, 1-0 at Luton in 1934 and 4-1 at Highbury ten years previously.

STRONGLY FANCED

Burnley, strongly fancied by many to reach Wembley for the second time since the war (they lost 1-0 to Charlton in 1947) will have a difficult task when they visit Blackburn.

The Rovers, with six victories, share with Aston Villa the honour of having won the Cup more times than any other club. But it should not be overlooked that five of their successes were secured in the years 1883 to 1891 when competition was not so fierce as in the present day.

They are going great guns at the moment, however, and have an outside chance of bringing off a Cup and League double. They have gained 23 League points from their last fourteen games and are seven points behind the Second Division leaders.

I take Blackburn to score a narrow victory over Burnley and expect Sheffield United, with Hagan back in the side and playing as well as ever, to join them in the last four by beating the winners of the Leeds-Chelsea replay.

(London Express Service)

JEST A MINUTE!

By GEOFFREY EVANS



Not No! No! Only identity cards were scrapped.

Home Soccer Results

London, Mar. 5.
The following were the results of football matches played today:

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH
The Army 3 Royal Navy 2 (played at Charlton)

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
Division "A"
Celtic 2 Morton 2
(This match was postponed from Jan. 5.)

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
Division "B"
Aberdeen 1 Alton 1
(This match was postponed from Feb. 9.)

Dundee U. 3 Stenmuir 0
(This match was postponed from Feb. 23.)—Reuter.

Vic Keeble To Lead Army Soccer Team

London, Mar. 5.
Vic Keeble, Newcastle United reserve centre-forward, has been chosen by the Army to lead a team against the Belgian Explosives to win the Featherweight Championship of the Philippines which had been vacant up to last night.

The fight was a dull affair except for the last two minutes. Bataan weighed 119 pounds, Espinosa weighed 125.—United Press.

DOCKYARD RC XI

The following have been selected to represent the Dockyard Recreation Club in a Second Division League cricket match against Royal Navy at King's Park on Saturday at 1.45 p.m.—Tucker, Barber, Hanley, Horries, Back, Hegarty, Harvey, Horwood, Macdonald, R. James, W. James, 12th man.

Referee: Umpire: Leggett. Bowler: Pyke.

OLYMPIC SLALOM CHAMPION



Othmar Schneider of Austria wins the Men's Slalom on the ski slopes of Rodkleiva during the Winter Olympic Games in Norway. His aggregate time for the two runs was 2 mins. 1 sec.—Express Photo.

Warriors' Triumphant Tour Of Macao

By "GRANDSTAND"

The "B" Division Warriors returned to the Colony this week after a triumphant tour of Macao where they nosed out the All-Stars 6-5 and shaded the League Champions, the Knights, 6-4 before a good crowd of football fans who turned out despite the threatening drizzle.

Ray Cordeiro, heading the visitors, utilised Joey Franco in both ends of the double-header, and while they pulled off the only double play of the series, Macao's starry shortstop, Padre Faushingbauer, slammed out the only round-tripper.

The returning contingent were loud in their praise of the warm hospitality accorded to them by the Macao Football Association, which adds yet another link to the bond between the sporting communities of the two ports.

At the conclusion of the games, a dance at the Meico Club was given in honour of the Hongkong team, music being supplied through the courtesy of the Santa Esperanza, while a galaxy of local talent entertained them with a hula number by Mrs. H. Marques and a wrestling exhibition by the Fun Fong Troop under the management of Alfredo Canavatto.

BATTING AVERAGES
Leading batters in the "A" Division League were struck with a hit-farmine during the recent crucial games.

The result of the devastation can be seen in the batting averages compiled to date which show that only a mere trio have been able to top the .300 mark, but for the sake of interest to those who are possible candidates for admission to that select circle, all those who have batted at least 30 times with an average of .250 and over are listed as follows:

R. Sequiera	11	38	12	.316
P. H. Lee	10	32	10	.313
C. Y. Lu	10	30	9	.300
C. Y. Lu	12	37	11	.297
D. Leonard	12	38	11	.286
H. Louis	10	35	10	.281
Seiden	10	32	9	.281
E. Almeida	11	30	8	.267
Jun. Remedios	10	30	8	.267
Wally Ma	12	39	10	.256
I. Erikson	10	28	7	.250

Jindoo Hussain of the Saints, who has returned to batting form recently, just missed inclusion with a .243 mark, while George Saunders did not bat sufficient times for qualification.

Home-runs were at a premium, for the only one to connect for more than one circuit was Harry Louie of the Overseas, which two homers to his credit, both of which were belted out in the early games of the season.

MIDGET LEAGUE
News has been received that the Midget League, which is being organised by the School Sports Association, will commence on Saturday, March 15.

Games will be played off Saturday and Wednesday mornings and the following are the participants: Blackhaws, Dodgers, St. Joseph's and Wahoes.

WEEK-END PROGRAMME
This week-end programme of games at King's Park follows:

Junior League
At 2.00 p.m. Ground A—35 Bantams v. Dodgers.
At 3.30 p.m. Ground B—Acies v. Wahoes.

Ladies' League
At 3.30 p.m. Ground A—Wahoes v. South China.

SUNDAY
Senior "A" Division
At 11.00 a.m. Ground A—Jaguars v. St. Joseph's.
At 12.30 p.m. Ground A—South China v. St. Joseph's.
At 1.00 p.m. Ground A—H.K. Pandas v. Braves.

Senior "B" Division
At 9.30 a.m. Ground A—Americans v. Warriors.
At 2.00 p.m. Ground A—Blackhaws v. H.K. Pandas.
At 3.30 p.m. Ground B—Pandas v. H.K. Pandas.
At 4.00 p.m. Ground A—H.K. Pandas v. Braves.
At 5.00 p.m. Ground A—H.K. Pandas v. Braves.
At 6.00 p.m. Ground A—H.K. Pandas v. Braves.
At 7.00 p.m. Ground A—H.K. Pandas v. Braves.
At 8.00 p.m. Ground A—H.K. Pandas v. Braves.
At 9.00 p.m. Ground A—H.K. Pandas v. Braves.

TODAY'S SPORT

LAWN TENNIS
Colony Championships at Hongkong Cricket Club Courts, Chater Road, commencing 9 a.m.

ATHLETICS
Northern Training College Primary School Sports at Caroline Hill, commencing 9 a.m.

BADMINTON
Colony Open Championships at Club de Recreio, commencing 6.30 p.m.
Junior Mixed Doubles.—Recreio "White" v. Recreio "Blue".

Royal Tan Wins National Hunt Steeplechase

Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, Mar. 5.

Irish-trained eight-year-old Royal Tan, runner-up in last year's Grand National and well fancied to go one better at Aintree next month, won the National Hunt Handicap Steeplechase over three miles here today.

Royal Tan won the race, regarded as a reliable test for the Grand National, by one and a half lengths, starting a 7-2 favourite in a field of eleven.

The Irish amateur rider, Mr. "Phenile" O'Brien, who rode Royal Tan in the National last year, had the mount again today.

He kept the gelding in the rear for just over half way, then made steady progress to take the lead three furlongs out. Royal Tan appeared to be tiring in the uphill run-in, but stayed on gamely to win.

Two other Grand National entrants, Pearly Prince and Sarlat Bay, were unplaced in the race.

At Monday's Victoria Cup colliery Royal Tan was quoted as a 100-6 joint second favourite with Pearly Prince and Teal-Router.

Gardner-Williams Fight May Be Broadcast
London, Mar. 5.

The British heavyweight championship fight between Jack Gardner, the holder, and Johnny Williams, at Earl's Court, London, next Tuesday may be broadcast.

The promoter, Mr. Jack Solomons, stated today that BBC wished to put the fight on the air. As all seats had been sold, he was agreeable and if the boxers' managers, Messrs. John Simpson and Ted Broadbent, with whom he would discuss the matter, were also in favour, permission would be given.—Reuter.

Colony Snooker

Following are the results of the Colony Snooker Championship matches played at the Kowloon Cricket Club last night: Y. C. Hui beat Ed. da Roz, 8-0; J. E. Medina beat R. H. S. Miller, 3-2.

JUNIOR BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS CONTINUE AT TAIKOO

By "ARGONAUT"

The Schoolgirls' Doubles event began yesterday for the first time in the Colony's badminton history when the Junior Championships continued at Taikoo Dock Club.

All the four Maryknoll girls who took part in the opening match exhibited a pleasingly high standard which augurs well for the future prospects of this event in the Championships.

G. Baptista and R. Carvalho, though the more experienced pair, were taken to two hard-fought sets before defeating their plucky opponents, F. Gaan and V. Brown, by 15-12 and 15-12.

Baptista was the best of the four and her forceful strokes were well supported by Carvalho to take them through the critical points.

Schoolboys' Singles top favourite Bobby Heng, who played for the Men's "C" Division League champion team, the Jaguars, was given a stern challenge by Clement School's Chau Sun-lam, before emerging the victor by 15-10, 15-10.

Despite the score of 15-2 and 15-11 in his favour, University's Joseph Foo was fully extended by Recreio's H. J. Kaylor in their Junior Singles match.

The game was featured by long rallies with both players exhibiting a wide variety of strokes, and frequently scoring with neatly executed drop shots and hard smashes.

Foo's greater speed and staying power pulled him through from a 5-7 deficit in the second set, when he went on to take the lead at 9-8 and 13-11 and eventually the set at 15-11.

HARD-HITTING
The return encounter between the Men's "C" Division League finalist pairs, B. A. Brown and A. D. Brown of Jaguars and Leo Leong and C. C. Yew of Tytam Club provided three sets of fast, hard-hitting badminton.

The Browns outmashed their slower opponents in the first set to win by 15-4, but the Tytam pair cleverly assumed the offensive in the second set with drop shots and side-line drives, directing their blows at the weaker B. A. Brown.

The Tytam pair won the second set by 15-7, after leading 9-4 and 11-7. The Browns, however, stepped up the game in the third set and smashed their way to a commanding 10-2 lead and did not look back until they clinched the set and match at 15-5.

THE RESULTS
Keenly contested games were seen at Taikoo last night when the Colony's badminton championships progressed a step further. Results follow:

Schoolboys' Doubles.—Leung Tin-sik and Chung Sing-cho beat C. Y. Yip and C. Y. Yip, 15-7, 15-7; A. Marquez-Lin and S. Xavier beat Wong Ka-wing and Wong Wan-yi, 15-7, 15-7.

Schoolboys' Singles.—Chau Sun-lam beat Robert Heng 15-10, 15-10; Leo Leong beat Cheng Hing-ping 15-2, 15-2; Schoolgirls' Doubles.—G. Baptista and R. Carvalho beat F. Gaan and V. Brown 15-12, 15-12.

Junior Men's Doubles.—B. A. Brown and A. D. Brown beat Leo Leong and C. C. Yew 15-4, 15-11; B. A. Brown and A. D. Brown beat Leo Leong and C. C. Yew 15-4, 15-11; B. A. Brown and A. D. Brown beat Leo Leong and C. C. Yew 15-4, 15-11.

At Monday's Victoria Cup colliery Royal Tan was quoted as a 100-6 joint second favourite with Pearly Prince and Teal-Router.

Gardner-Williams Fight May Be Broadcast
London, Mar. 5.

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Command W'shops Win Minor Units Championship

By defeating 27 (Strang's) Light Infantry RA by two clear goals on Monday, Command Workshops REME have won the Minor Units League Zone 1 Championship.

They will now play the winner of Zone 2 in the Inter-League final at Boundary Street on Wednesday, March 26.

Command Workshops have not lost a single game throughout the Competition.

INDIAN RC XI

The following will represent the I.R.C. XI in a League match against KGV at Kowloon on Saturday-March, at 1.45 p.m. at King George V School ground: S. E. M. Bux, A. D. Ebrahim, M. Y. Samad, A. R. Abbas, Ador Rumljohn, A. R. M. Samy, S. K. Khan, R. A. Bux, E. S. Kader, H. T. Bhatia, T. E. Chiba, Umpire, Mr. K. M. Omar.

Players are requested to meet at Star Ferry, Kowloon side, at 1.30 p.m.

Bombay Wins The Ranji Trophy

Bombay, Mar. 5.
Bombay today won the Ranji Trophy for the Indian Cricket Championship, defeating the holders, Madras, by 581 runs in the five-day final.—Reuter.

THE GAMBOLS



BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE

(Butterfield & Swire (Hongkong) Ltd.)

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

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"KONTUM"	Hainan	10 a.m. 8th Mar.
"HANYANG"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 10th Mar.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m. 12th Mar.
"FUKIEN"	Djokarta, Cheribon, Semarang, Sourabaya & Mianassar	10 a.m. 13th Mar.
"YCHOOW"	Singapore & Penang	10 a.m. 15th Mar.
"SINKIANG"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	5 p.m. 15th Mar.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m. 18th Mar.
"HUPEH"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 23rd Mar.
"SOCHOW"	Bangkok	5 p.m. 25th Mar.

Sails from Custodian Wharf

ARRIVALS FROM		
"SZECHUEN"	Osaka	9th Mar.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m. 10th Mar.
"FUKIEN"	Kobe	10/11th Mar.
"YCHOOW"	Mohi	11th Mar.
"SINKIANG"	Yokohama	13th Mar.
"SHENGKING"	Singapore	13th Mar.
"HUPEH"	Bangkok	14th Mar.
"SOCHOW"	Tientsin	17/18th Mar.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO		
"TAIWAN"	Manila & Sydney	Noon 12th Mar.
"TAIPING"	Sydney & Melbourne	20th Mar.
"CHANGSHA"	Sydney & Melbourne (for passengers only)	27th Mar.

ARRIVALS FROM		
"TAIWAN"	Kure	9/10th Mar.
"TAIPING"	Nagoya	23rd Mar.
"CHANGSHA"	Yokohama	26th Mar.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said		
"PELEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	7th Mar.
"CLYTONEUS"	Genoa, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg via Manila	22nd Mar.
"ANCHISES"	Dublin, Liverpool & Avonmouth	20th Mar.
"PATROCLUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	6th Apr.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

Ship	Sails	Arrives
"CLYTONEUS"	Liverpool	11th Mar.
"PATROCLUS"	do	17th Mar.
"ASTYANAX"	do	24th Mar.
"AENEAS"	do	1st Apr.
"ASCANIUS"	5th Mar.	8th Apr.
"PERSEUS"	12th Mar.	16th Apr.
"AGAPENOR"	18th Mar.	24th Apr.
"CALCHAS"	25th Mar.	1st May
"AUTOMEDON"	31st Mar.	11th May

G. Loading Glasgow before Liverpool.
S. Loading Swansea before Liverpool.

Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING via MANILA FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS		
"DONA NATI"	18th Mar.	
"ANDAMAN"	10th Apr.	

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route	Departs Hongkong	Arrives H.K. (on return)
HK/Singapore (DC-4)	8:00 a.m. Mon. Thurs. 8:45 a.m. Tues. Fri.	
HK/Hongkong (DC-4)	10:00 a.m. Tues. 2:15 p.m. Wed.	
HK/Singapore (DC-4)	12:00 Noon Tues. 4:15 p.m. Wed.	
HK/Manila/D.N. Borneo (DC-3)	8:30 a.m. Tues. Fri. 3:45 p.m. Wed. Sat.	

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1 CONNAUGHT RD. C. Tel. 30331/3
BRANCH OFFICE: 50 Connaught Rd. West. Tel. 25375/3214/4/24878

BEN LINE

SHIPS	FROM	DUE
"BENATTOW"	U.K. via Singapore	on or abt. 18th Mar.
"BENAVON"	Japan	21st Mar.
"BENLEDI"	U.K. via Singapore	30th Mar.
"BENCLEUCH"	U.K. via Singapore	18th Apr.
"BENRUACHAN"	Japan	25th Apr.
"BENMACHTH"	U.K. via Singapore	25th Apr.

SAILINGS Loading on or abt.		
"BENATTOW"	London & Hamburg	21st Mar.
"BENAVON"	Direct to Singapore, thence Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin & Hull.	22nd Mar.
"BENLEDI"	Kure, Yokohama & Kobe	5th Apr.
"BENCLEUCH"	Avonmouth, Liverpool, Glasgow, & Antwerp	22nd Apr.
"BENRUACHAN"	Direct to Singapore, thence Havre, London & Hamburg	24th Apr.
"BENMACHTH"	Kure, Yokohama & Kobe	28th Apr.

1 Calls Manila, Taiwan, Sandakan, Jesselton & Labuan.

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News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the

Editor, Chinese Communications

and advertisements to the Secretary.

Telephone: 2611 (5 Lines).

Kowloon Office:

Salesbury Road,

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NOTICE

THE "STAR" FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Notice to Shareholders

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fiftyth Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Members of the Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Pedder Street, Hong Kong, on Friday, 28th March, 1952, at Noon for the following purposes:—

1. To receive and consider the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1951, and the Auditors' Report thereon.
2. To sanction a dividend in respect of the year 1951.
3. To elect Directors.
4. To appoint Auditors.

CLOSING OF TRANSFER BOOKS

Notice is also given that the Transfer Books and Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 15th March, 1952, to 28th March, 1952, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
G. B. S. THOMSON,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 5th March, 1952.

SOAPY WATER

IS GOOD FOR PLANTS:

USE BATH SURPLUS IN THE

GARDEN.

WATER IS PRECIOUS

TRADESMEN IN ARMY

London, Mar. 5.
The Secretary for War, Mr. Anthony Head, said in a written reply in the House of Commons today that, wherever practical, National Servicemen were employed in their trades or the equivalent Army trades.

This was not possible for skilled craftsmen such as carpenters and joiners, since the Army's needs were met almost entirely by regular soldiers.

For this reason National Servicemen in these trades could only be sure of being posted to the corps which catered for their particular trades if they undertook regular engagement.—Reuter.

NOTICE

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY OF HONG KONG

St. Patrick's Day

17th March, 1952.

As St. Patrick's Day falls within the period of mourning for His Late Majesty King George VI, the annual Cocktail Party and Dinner Dance which was to have been held in the "Gripps" Hongkong Hotel, will not now take place.

At 11.00 a.m. on the 17th March the President of the Society, R. E. Farrell, Esq., will lay a wreath on the Cenotaph and it is hoped that as many members as possible will attend this ceremony when they should assemble not later than 10.45 a.m. on the Hongkong Club side of Statue Square.

All Irishmen and women, and persons of Irish Association not yet members are cordially invited to join the Society. Membership application forms may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary.

D. R. BLAND,
Hon. Secretary.
P. O. Box 615.

Dedicated To Peace

Rangoon, Mar. 5.
A thousand monks in saffron robes sounded cymbals, conches and flageolets today as a seven-tiered bronze stupa studded with diamonds and rubies was raised upon a new Burmese shrine dedicated to world peace.

Buddhists believe that relics of the two principal disciples of Buddha placed in its treasure vault will miraculously usher in a new and peaceful era.

The name of the shrine, in which it was dedicated today, is "Kha-Aye," meaning "World Peace," and the relics which were last year ceremoniously enshrined were given to Burma by the Indian Government.

The shrine was begun a year ago under the supervision of the devout Premier, Thakin Nu, the originator of the idea, and the installation of the spire completes it.—Reuter.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CONSIGNEES PER

LLOYD THREISTINO

ms. "S. CAHOTO"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s godown where it will be at consignees risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godown for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors. Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on the 6th March, 1952.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 7th March, 1952, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 14th March, 1952, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.

Agents

Hongkong, 20th February, 1952.

P&O B.I. E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Arrives Hongkong
"CORFU"	7th February	10th March
"CANTON"	8th March	7th April
"CARTHAGE"	2nd April	4th May
"CHUSAN"	9th April	5th May

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore.

Homewards: Leaves Hongkong Due London

"CORFU" 14th March 14th April

"CANTON" 11th April 12th May

"CHUSAN" 8th May 2nd June

"CARTHAGE" 9th May 9th June

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden & London.

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Due Hongkong	From
"SURAT"	3rd April	LONDON & CONTINENT

Homewards: Leaves Hongkong For

"SOCOTRA" 14th March LONDON & CONTINENT

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"WARORA" sails 11th March from Calcutta, Rangoon, Penang & Spore

"SANTHA" sails 18th March from Calcutta, Madras, Penang & Singapore

sails 29th March from Japan

(These vessels have refrigerated cargo space)

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"URLANA" due 19th Mar. from Japan

sails 20th Mar. for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay & Karachi

"PEMBA" due 20th Mar. from Karachi, Colombo & Spore

sails 21st Mar. for Japan

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"NELLORE"	sails 6th March	for Port Moresby, Sydney & Melbourne
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All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

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By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



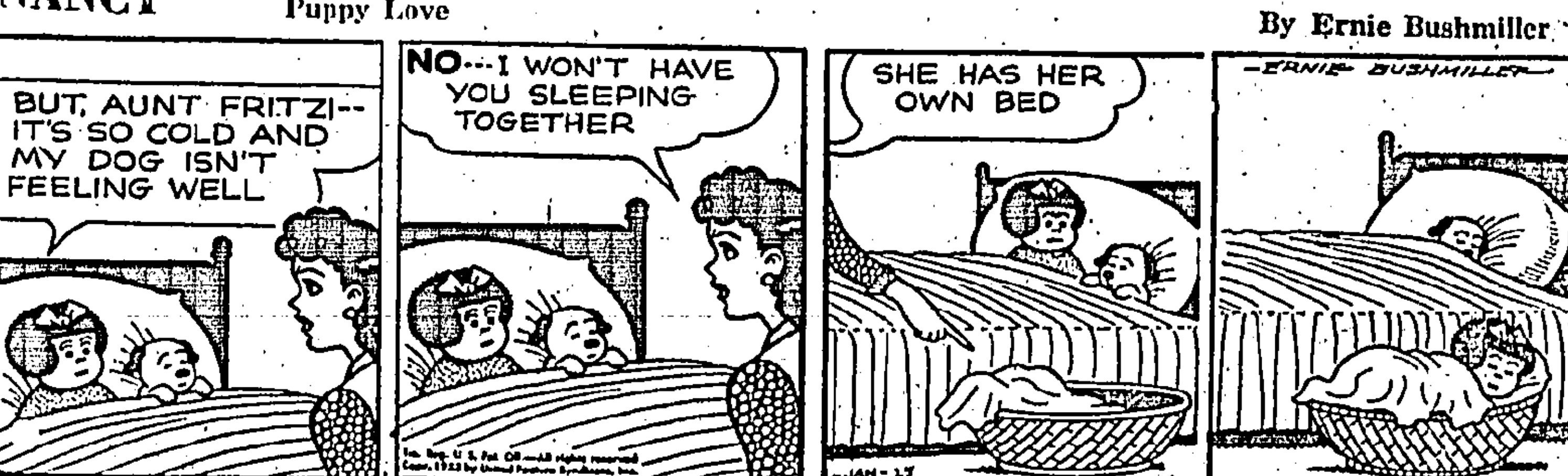
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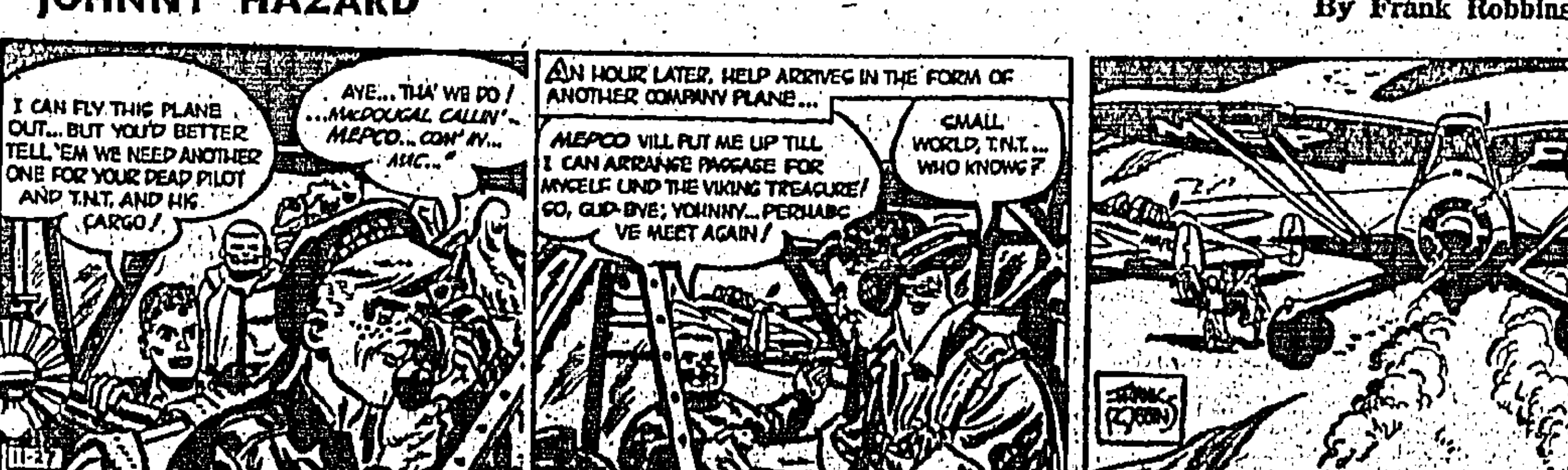
NANCY

Puppy Love



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



MESSAGERIES MARITIMES



Arriving Leaving Outward For
 "LA MARSEILLAISE" Mar. 30 Mar. 31 Kobe, Yokohama
 "MAPIE HILL" Apr. 9

Homeward For
 "FELIX ROUSSEL" Mar. 6 Mar. 7 Marseilles via Manila
 "MORTAIN" Mar. 15 Mar. 16 N. Africa & Europe
 "ZELIDIA" Apr. 4 Apr. 5 N. Africa & Europe

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Friday the 7th of March at 9 P.M.

Passengers are requested to board the vessel with their cabin baggage on Friday the 7th of March between 4 P.M. and 8 P.M. (Dinner for passengers at 7 P.M.)

Baggage Room and Hold Baggage will be registered at Kowloon Godown No. 50 (No. 2 Gate Canton Road Entrance) on Thursday the 6th of March from 9 A.M. to NOON and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. and on Friday March 7th from 9 A.M. to NOON ONLY.

No baggage will be accepted for registration after this time.

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 Queen's Building. Tel. 26651 (3 lines).

Anglo-Japanese Pact Revision To Be Proposed

Tokyo, Mar. 5.

The Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry will propose later this month a conference with Britain for a revision of the current overall payments agreement between the two countries, sources close to the Ministry said today.

The payments agreement signed last September abolished the dollar clause and resulted in excess Sterling reserves in Japan amounting to £90,000,000.

The Japanese Government will seek to find at the conference means to prevent further piling up of Sterling reserves.

The Ministry, at present working on its policy at the talks, will have to iron out differences of views on how to solve the Pound issue with the Ministry of Finance and the Foreign Exchange Control Commission before the conference takes place. Financial observers said, however, that difficulty is expected before the three Ministries reach agreement on a unified payments policy.

Ministry sources said that while the Exchange Control Commission and the Ministry of Finance are insisting on the restoration of the "dollar clause" and participation in trade relations with the US dollar account countries, the MITI expresses the view that the restoration of the dollar clause is not necessary. —France-Press.

FACT WITH SWEDEN

Tokyo, Mar. 5.
 Japan and Sweden today signed new trade agreements providing for the exchange of goods and services during the calendar year 1952 amounting to approximately \$17,000,000 in imports from Sweden and \$10,000,000 in exports from Japan.

The agreements were signed by Mr. Sadano Iguchi, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Baron K. G. Lagerfeldt, Swedish diplomatic representative in Japan.

The Foreign Office announced that the unbalanced trade plan is based upon the idea that it is desirable that the volume of trade between the two countries be maintained at least at the normal level and that the net amount unfavourable to Sweden, which resulted from Sweden's overbuying in 1951, be offset by means of the flow of goods during the course of the calendar year 1952.

The principal exports from Japan in 1952 will consist of textiles, chemicals, agricultural

Smuggling In Singapore

Singapore, Mar. 5.
 Watch dealers have issued a warning that smuggling of good quality watches into the Colony will follow the cut in imports to 25 per cent of the present volume.

The Singapore and Malayan Governments ordered the cut to conserve dollars and other hard currencies now being expended on watch imports. A Swiss watch importer said good quality watches were being smuggled into the colony from Hongkong and Bangkok during 1950 and this is likely to happen again. —Associated Press.

REACTION TO SOVIET INVITATION

Washington, Mar. 5.

The Indonesian Government has advised private traders in Indonesia that it has no objection to them sending representatives to the Moscow trade conference in April, it was learned here today.

However, the Indonesian Government will not send an official delegation to the affair. Instead, a committee of four persons, including a Government official, has been set up in Djakarta to provide information to organisations which may wish to send delegates to Moscow.

The Indonesian Government specified that those who go to Moscow must be "bona fide" traders and not persons interested in ideological considerations.

The Soviet trade conference is designed, according to the Communist sponsors, to relax the tensions which restrict trade between the Soviet Union and the West and bring about a general improvement in the living conditions of peoples of the world.

American officials consider the Moscow conference as a Soviet attempt to break down from within the United States-inspired restrictions on trading in strategic materials with countries of the Communist bloc.

They report that a number of top-level American businessmen have received invitations to the conference but all declined or failed to answer. The sponsors then sent invitations to other businessmen who presumably were considered more "sympathetic." The results of the second group of invitations are not yet fully known.

Mr. Oscar Lange, former Polish Ambassador to the United States, is general director of the Moscow trade conference. —United Press.

The Rubber Markets

London, Mar. 5.

Prices closed today slightly easier after a firm opening. Number 1 rubber, in cents per lb. 33-33 1/2. April 33-33 1/2. May 33-33 1/2. June 33-33 1/2. July 33-33 1/2. August 33-33 1/2. September 33-33 1/2. October 33-33 1/2. —United Press.

SINGAPORE MARKET

Singapore, Mar. 5.

Prices of rubber futures closed today as follows:— Number 1 rubber, per lb. 33-33 1/2. April 33-33 1/2. May 33-33 1/2. June 33-33 1/2. July 33-33 1/2. August 33-33 1/2. September 33-33 1/2. October 33-33 1/2. —United Press.

Cotton Prices In New York

New York, Mar. 5.

Prices of cotton futures closed today as follows:— Spot 49.95 nominal. March 49.44. April 49.77. May 50.02. June 50.27. July 50.52. August 50.77. September 50.99. October 51.24. November 51.49. December 51.74. —United Press.

NEW ORLEANS MARKET

New Orleans, Mar. 5.

Spot 49.95 nominal. March 49.44. April 49.77. May 50.02. June 50.27. July 50.52. August 50.77. September 50.99. October 51.24. November 51.49. December 51.74. —United Press.

Bangkok Action

Bangkok, Mar. 5.

The Thai authorities today partially lifted the embargo on rice exports, which was imposed on Feb. 23, by permitting the loading of government-owned government rice, on which export duty had already been paid. —Router.

Philippines Dispute Over Abolition Of Foreign Exchange Tax Discouraging Investments

Manila, Mar. 5.

The Central Bank Governor, Miguel Cuaderno, today demanded that the 17 per cent sales tax on foreign exchange remittances from the Philippines be retained until the Bell Trade Act governing commercial relations is either repealed or amended to favour the Philippines.

Mr Cuaderno testified before the House Ways and Means Committee which two days ago heard a group of American businessmen ask for abolition of the foreign exchange tax.

The Americans pointed out that the tax applies to capital and profits which investors desire to remit to their home countries and said its continuation discouraged investments here.

The American group also pointed out that other countries, such as Japan, India, Pakistan and Burma, as well as a number in South America, are offering good opportunities for investment without such restrictions as taxes on exchange remittances.

Some Philippines newspapers in their stories on the hearings said that this implied a threat to withdraw investments here. J. A. Parrish, general manager of Standard Vacuum Oil Company here, told The Associated Press that no such threat was made or implied by the American group.

The exchange tax has long been a bone of contention between foreign businessmen and the Philippines Government. The businessmen say it imposes an additional tax on them.

Under the Bell-Trade Act, American goods are admitted duty free into the Philippines, except for a retail sales tax of seven per cent and a two per cent processing levy made by the import control office for handling permits. In return, Philippines sugar is given a quota of 850,000 long tons in the United States and other agricultural products are admitted either duty free or on a quota basis.

NEEDS REVENUE

The Bell Act has provisions which gradually diminish the amount of duty free Philippines imports into the United States. The Philippines Government needs additional revenue. For that reason it is seeking revision of the act in order to be able to impose tariffs for revenue—even though these levies will eventually be passed along to the customers in a country which is already suffering from inflated prices of consumer goods and foods.

At the same time, the hearings in Congress indicate, Philippines blandly assume that they can continue to send their agricultural products into the United States duty free, or nearly so.

Some Filipinos are against opening up the Act for revision at this time because they feel that the sugar, dairy, lumber and agricultural lobby in Washington will seize the opportunity to press for high protective tariffs against the products which are the life-blood of this nation's economy.

These Filipinos are those who are cognisant of the fact that back in the 1930's the bill which eventually established their independence was pushed through Congress by the pressure of American interests which wanted to halt the competition of cheaper island agricultural products, principally sugar.

THE LONG VIEW

While there is a temporary shortage of sugar in the Far East which might enable the Philippines to produce and sell to other countries at a profit for a short time, in the long run the restored sugar producing area in the East Indies will be able to undersell the local product.

Already there is a crisis in copra, largest foreign exchange producer for the Philippines in the post-war era. The price of copra has dropped to a six-year low, with quotations on the top grade yesterday at 20 pesos (US\$10) per 100 kilos (220 pounds). Shipments have fallen off, cutting into the income of one-third of the Philippines population, which is already on little more than a bare subsistence level.

The United States Mutual Security Agency is pouring \$32,000,000 into the Philippines during the present fiscal year and apparently plans to send in even a larger amount next year for the purpose of reviving the economy. The drop in copra prices, if continued, will just about offset this, some observers believe.

The purpose of the American aid is to stabilize the economy and improve the lot of the masses as an antidote to Communism, which is largely spread among

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$652,274.78. Noon quotations and the morning's transaction:—

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS
 HK Bank XD 1470 1500 12 1400
 East Asia 1 14 139
 INSURANCES
 Canton 260 50 260
 Union 755 710 42 765
 Underwriters 122 160
 HK Fire 122 160

SHIPPING

Asia Nav. 1.70 1.71 0000 1.72 1/2
 DOCKS, ETC.
 K. Khari 106 7
 N. P. Wharf 500 47 1/2
 Dock 45 46 30 43 1/2
 Wharlock 3 40 2 1/2
 Hongkew 3 40 2 1/2

LAND, ETC.

HK Hotel XD 730 1000 7 1/2
 HK Hotel XD 0112 02 5100 0 1112
 Realty 2 1/2

UTILITIES

Tan 17 1/2 17 1/2 2000 17 1/2
 C. Light (O) 0.40 0.41 2300 0.41
 C. Light (N) 52 500 1000 50 500
 Electric XD 21 21 1/2 1532 21 1/2
 1200 21 1/2
 22 21 1/2

TELEPHONE

16 1/2 17 500 16 1/2
 INDUSTRIALS
 Cement 17 200 16 1/2
 Rope 22 1/2 23 1000 22 1/2

STORES, ETC.

D. 1030 1015 1000 1 1015
 L. Crawford 100 100 33 1/2

COTTONS

Ewo 3 1/2

MISCELLANEOUS

HK Construction (Old) 340 1800 3 1/2

Foreign Exchanges In NY

New York, Mar. 5.

Canada—official US\$1.00 1/2
 England—official 2.31 bid/2.31 asked
 " unofficial 2.31 bid/2.31 asked
 " 30-day futures 2.27 1/2
 " 90-day futures 2.22 1/2
 Australia 2.22 1/2
 New Zealand 2.22 1/2
 South Africa 2.22 1/2
 Belgium 1.08 1/2
 Denmark 1.08 1/2
 France 1.485
 West Germany 4.20
 Holland 2.35
 Italy 1.485
 Norway 1.485
 Portugal 0.370
 Spain 0.205
 Sweden 0.635
 Switzerland 2.22 1/2

MIDDLE EAST

Egypt 2.89 1/2
 Iran 0.3125
 Turkey 2.01
 Iraq 3.375

LATIN AMERICA

Argentina 0.725
 Brazil 0.500
 Bolivia 0.015
 Chile 0.015
 Colombia 0.015
 Cuba 1.00
 Peru 1.00
 Mexico 1.00
 Uruguay 1.00
 Venezuela 1.00

FAIR EAST

India 2.363
 Pakistan 2.350
 Hongkong 1.00
 Indonesia 2.015
 Singapore 2.015
 Japan 2.015
 300 yen to US\$1
 —United Press.

LONDON TIN MARKET

London, Mar. 5.

Prices of tin were steady this morning. Turnover was 70 tons, including five tons for cash.

Prices closed at the end of the official morning session as follows:—

Spot tin, buyers 97 1/2
 Spot tin, sellers 97 1/2
 Business done at 97 1/2
 Three-month tin, buyers 97 1/2
 Three-month tin, sellers 97 1/2
 Business done at 97 1/2
 Settlement 97 1/2
 —United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local

unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:—

U.S. dollar (per \$1) 6.77
 Sterling note (per £1) 15.53
 Indonesia guilders (per 100) 2.00
 Siam bahts (per 100) 1.75
 Singapore (Straits) 1.75
 P.T. dollars (per 100) 13.20

JAPANESE BONDS

London, Mar. 5.

Japanese bonds:—
 "A" (4.5 of 1899) 61 1/4
 "B" (4.5 of 1910) 59 1/4
 "C" (4.5 of 1911) 100 1/4
 "D" (4.5 of 1912) 70 1/4
 "E" (4.5 of 1913) 122 1/4
 Consols 60
 —United Press.

New York Stock Exchange

New York, Mar. 5.

Dow Jones averages at the end of the stock market session stood as follows:—

30 Industrials 264.69
 20 rails 88.73
 15 utilities 181.37
 40 bonds 181.37
 —United Press.

Japanese Bonds

London, Mar. 5.

Japanese bonds:—
 "A" (4.5 of 1899) 61 1/4
 "B" (4.5 of 1910) 59 1/4
 "C" (4.5 of 1911) 100 1/4
 "D" (4.5 of 1912) 70 1/4
 "E" (4.5 of 1913) 122 1/4
 Consols 60
 —United Press.

Royal INTEROCEAN LINES

SAILINGS To

Ship	Date	To
"TRIPLAS"	Mar. 6th	Manila, Singapore & S. Africa
"TAMAR"	Mar. 8th	Singapore, Penang & Belawan Dell
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 9th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 14th	Singapore, Mauritius, Tanga, Zanzibar, Dar-es-Salaam, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 16th	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 20th	Japan
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 20th	Manila, Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 21st	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 22nd	Singapore, Penang & Belawan Dell
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 23rd	Manila, Singapore, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 24th	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 25th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 26th	Japan
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 27th	Manila, Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 28th	Singapore, Penang & Belawan Dell
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 29th	Manila, Singapore, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 30th	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 31st	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar

ARRIVALS From

Ship	Date	From
"TAMAR"	Mar. 6th	Japan
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 8th	Manila, Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 9th	Singapore, Penang & Belawan Dell
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 14th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 16th	Singapore, Mauritius, Tanga, Zanzibar, Dar-es-Salaam, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 20th	Manila, Singapore, S. Africa & N. America
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"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 25th	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 26th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 27th	Japan
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 28th	Manila, Singapore, Mauritius, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 29th	Singapore, Penang & Belawan Dell
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 30th	Manila, Singapore, S. Africa & N. America
"TJIVANDOK"	Mar. 31st	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar

General Agents,

HOLLAND-EST-ASIA-LINE

SAILINGS TO EUROPE

Ship	Date	To
"HOOGHEK"	Mar. 7th	—
"ARENDSEK"	Apr. 7th	—
"KILDEK"	May 7th	—
"KILDEK"	June 7th	—
"KILDEK"	July 7th	—

SAILING FROM EUROPE

Ship	Date	From
"ARENDSEK"	Mar. 31st	—
"KILDEK"	Apr. 31st	—
"KILDEK"	May 31st	—
"KILDEK"	June 31st	—
"KILDEK"	July 31st	—

KINGS BUILDING TELEPHONES 28015 TO 28017

GENERAL AGENTS, HOLLAND-EST-ASIA-LINE

MAERSK LINE

FAST FORTHRIGHT SERVICE TO:

NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE & PHILADELPHIA via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES AND PANAMA.

NEXT SAILINGS

Ship	Date	To
M.S. "TREIN MAERSK"	Mar. 16	—
M.S. "PETER MAERSK"	Apr. 2	—
M.S. "NICOLINE MAERSK"	Apr. 16	—

ARRIVALS FROM U.S.A.

Blakeborough & Sons, Ltd.
Steam, Water & Oil Valves.

ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO. LTD.
111, 113 & 115, South Bridge Road, Singapore.

CHINA MAIL

Established 1845

Page 10

THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1952.

Refresh...add zest to the hour



France Dismayed By US Decision Over Indo-China

From SYDNEY SMITH

Paris, Mar. 5.

France is dismayed by official reports from Washington today that American counter-action to the new Chinese Communist adventures in Asia will mean no more direct military aid for Indo-China.

In a private talk at Lisbon the then French Minister, M. Edgar Faure, told Mr. Acheson, "I am going to ask you a straight, simple question—does America consider the Indo-China war a private affair of France or part of the whole anti-Communist front in Asia?"

And M. Faure is reported to have added, "According to your reply we shall know what to do."

Prison For False Pretences

An unlicensed hawk, Ng Muk-ching, 21, was found guilty on three counts of obtaining money by false pretences and sentenced to 12 weeks by Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning.

Defendant who had a previous conviction for disorderly conduct and bound over in \$150 for one year was sentenced to a further four weeks for breach of bond.

Ng was alleged to have fraudulently obtained from Yiu Kum-wing between January 10 and 12 at Sugar Street, Wan-chai, \$10.50 by pretending that he was able to obtain employment for Yiu as a watchman in the Military Department. On January 9 defendant was alleged to have obtained \$30 and \$18 from Li Cheuk-fai and Cheng Hung-ho respectively, promising them employment when he did to the first complainant.

Complainants reported to the Police when defendant failed to meet them on January 14, to take them to their new jobs.

Defendant was arrested at Hennessy Road on January 24 when the Police were making enquiries regarding an armed robbery.

Defendant said this morning that the complainants approached him for work and as he knew a friend in the Forces he approached the friend and was told to get \$105 from them if they wanted employment. They could only raise \$54.50 and he raised the balance of the money by pawnbroking his own watch. He said his friend failed him.

Prosecution said that enquiries were made and it was found that accused had no such friend in the Forces.

THE FINE AS BEFORE

Pleading that he was punished for the same offences only last month, Wong Fei, 28, licensee and master of fishing junk F2309HIA, was fined \$150 by Mr. W. Sprague at the Marine Court this morning for providing his craft with an engine and carrying dangerous goods—12 gallons of petrol.

Defendant, whose junk was found in Tsau Wan yesterday, said that he did not remove the engine since he was last fined because he wanted to sell his boat with the engine in it.

The Magistrate warned defendant to remove the engine and said that in view of the circumstances he would impose the same fine as before.

PROPHESIED HIS OWN DEATH

(Continued from Page 1)

the asylum has already been sent to the Court.

In it the Countess is alleged to have said: "I shot Saccchi with my husband's pistol. I held the pistol under an ermine cape in my lap. Before I saw him jump to the floor I pointed the pistol at my head. It would not go off. I tugged and tugged at the trigger, but it had jammed or something."

"I do not remember what happened next."

The alleged statement closed with the words: "I shall always remember Carlo. I loved him truly."—Reuter.

M. Faure had in mind the fact that the Indo-China war is adding about £1,000,000 daily to France's defence effort and has already cost the equivalent to one year's output of regular trained officers from St. Cyr, the French Sandhurst. Junior officer losses are now averaging two a day, more than France can afford if her promised 12-Division contribution to the European Army is to be ready this year.

Mr. Acheson told M. Faure that he would have to carry that much weighted Lisbon question back with him to Washington. The answer has now come after top secret Washington talks between the British, Americans and French in which the American Chiefs of Staff as well as the State Department took part.

NO US TROOPS

It promises only air and sea support if the Chinese Communists intervene in Indo-China. But no American troops are to be sent to Indo-China "under any circumstances."

America promises in the event of a Chinese attack to provide indirect support in the form of a naval blockade and air attacks on the Chinese mainland.

The French Defence Ministry and the Quai d'Orsay reaction is one of acute gloom.

France considers that Western nations with Far Eastern interests should take Indo-China into the pool of common effort. That was the answer M. Faure was hoping for.

In the past two months there has been an increasing tendency in France to see two possibilities in Indo-China: one, a negotiated peace with Ho Chi-minh, and two a cutback in the French effort and even possible French withdrawal.

The answer from Washington will encourage the supporters of the two solutions.—London Express Service.

Local Ballet Triumph

A packed house spoke eloquently in their applause last night for the first ballet presentation dance to be given in Hongkong.

"At the Ballet" was unquestionably a success—beyond the dreams of the most optimistic dancer in the show. One of the most important things, then, to transpire from last night's experience, was that Hongkong could, with barely any persuasion, produce an enthusiastically ballet minded public. To keep themselves going, artists must have a public, and this is the first experience of the dance.

That six of last night's dancers, previously quite untrained, should reach in five short months the pitch that was attained by the Ballet Group last night is an achievement of some consequence for them, and a triumph for Patricia Denholm, Director of the Dance, as well as for Technical Adviser Mina To, who with Brenda Gomersall and Eunice Eglington were the only four with previous professional or amateur experience.

Young Vivien To is following predictably in her mother's footsteps, and the other four children, starting at the age they are now, have every possibility. Like a piece of elastic in her frolic as the orchid, and later in the gay colours of tulle, the amount of control and nerve Winnie Fung combined was most impressive for her size.—S.S.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith.



"I guess only the animals can put away savings nowadays without taxes!"

Students Found Not Guilty Of Rioting

Arrested during the riot in Kowloon last Saturday three students, aged 12, 16 and 15 respectively, were found not guilty of behaving in a riotous manner and were discharged by Mr. James Wicks at Kowloon this morning.

The youths were said by the Police to have come from school "with Communist brains and ideas."

The first two boys were represented by Mr. A. Lui and the third by Mr. Charles Ying.

The evidence of PC Chan Shing was that he saw the second accused running from a crowd outside the Mongkok Police station which dispersed when his van appeared along Nathan Road. The crowd had been waving flags and stoning the station. He alleged that the boy who appeared to be suffering from the effects of tear gas. His face was pale and his lips white. The boy said "I have not got those song-papers and fireworks on me."

After the arrest of the first accused the van proceeded further up Nathan Road and soon after stopped again for him to arrest the third accused who was acting similarly to the second accused, said the constable.

STREET CHASE

The van then continued and at the junction of Lanchuk Road and Nathan Road it turned back. It had gone a little distance on the return journey when the first accused was spotted walking with two others. They dodged and ran away on seeing the Police van. Witnesses chased them into a side street and managed to catch the first accused near Shanghai Street. All three boys had dirty hands.

In cross-examination, the constable said that he heard the crowd outside the Police Station shouting, "Don't be afraid of them. Attack! Attack!" "Be United." They were also singing Communist slogans.

He said that the three boys gave him the names of two schools in Waterloo Road and Fa Yuen Street and he added that these were schools "with Communist brains and ideas."

The first and second accused gave no evidence, but the third boy said he was lying near the place of his arrest and at the time was going home. He said his father was a Chinese doctor.

COURT'S RULING

In his ruling, Mr. Wicks said: "I believe the constable and I am satisfied that he is giving a very good description of what happened that afternoon. There was every reason why the accused should be arrested. They were at the scene of the riot and were caught when running."

"The law is that if there is an explanation compatible with innocence, an accused must be given the benefit of it."

"Here all three accused were arrested at a place where they would usually be; the second and third accused near their houses and the first accused on the road from his school to his house. The second accused was not seen to shout or wave his hands, all that is said is that he was seen to run from a crowd that did so. The only evidence against the first and third ac-

HONGKONG ELECTRIC ANNUAL MEETING Surcharge To Be Made To Meet Increased Fuel Costs

Because of the big increase in fuel prices, the Hongkong Electric Company finds it necessary to make a surcharge, it was disclosed at the annual meeting of the company this morning. It was explained that on present prices of oil and coal this will represent an increase of 22 per cent and will have the effect of increasing the basic cost of lighting from 29 cents per unit to 35.38 cents and that for power from 12 to 14.64 cents.

"I need hardly say," declared the Chairman in his report to shareholders, "that coming as it does after nine reductions in rates since 1945 this course has been adopted with considerable regret by the Board, and it is our earnest hope that world fuel prices will return to their former level, thus permitting the discontinuance of the surcharge."

A profit of over \$7,390,000 was reported for the past year. Mr. Duckworth delivered the speech of the Chairman, Mr. J. D. Alexander, who has just recovered from an attack of laryngitis.

He said: "You will observe that after providing for the Interim Dividend of 1.10 on the old shares a sum of \$7,388,000.08 remains for appropriation. Your Directors recommend that this should be allocated in the following way:—First, to pay a final dividend of \$1.90 per share, free of tax, on the old shares absorbing \$3,900,000. Secondly, to pay a dividend of 50 cents per share, free of tax, on the new shares absorbing \$700,000. Thirdly, to transfer to General Reserve \$2,152,055.07 and fourthly, to carry forward to 1952 the sum of \$555,945.01."

I trust these recommendations will meet with your approval and that they have been incorporated in the presented accounts.

During the past year the load on the Generating Station has shown a further increase, rising from 36,000 K.W. to 42,000 K.W. whilst output increased by over 19% and amounted to over 195,000,000 K.W. hours. Our resources have been taxed to the utmost to keep pace with the growth of the load. A new 15,000 K.W. generator was commissioned during the year but unfortunately we were not able to add to our steaming capacity and consequently we are still not in a position to carry out a normal programme of maintenance on our plant. As an example of many of our difficulties on the technical side it will be of interest to mention that owing to the shortage of raw materials, and the intervention of other priorities in the United Kingdom, our No 15 and No 16 boiler delivery dates were delayed by 26 months and 15 months respectively. It is now hoped however that the latter boiler will be steaming next month.

FAIR SHARE PLEA

Under present conditions such difficulties on the technical side are bound to recur, I think, because of the great problems we owe a great debt of gratitude to the Colonial Secretary and the Colony's Representative in London for presenting our case in the United Kingdom for the necessity of raw materials in this Colony. Without their help, so readily given, we should not be in such a good position as we find ourselves now.

The creation of the southward extension of the Generating Hall and Boiler House has been commenced and should be completed about the middle of this year. This will afford housing for a further 20,000 K.W. set together with boilers and ancillary plant. Plans for further extensions are under way and every-thing possible is being done to meet all future demands for electricity.

The problem of distributing the additional load has received attention and extensions of our 22,000 volt network and the smaller distributors are in hand.

As you will have noted from our announcement in the Press a further reduction in rates to consumers will be effective as from 1st April next. This has been made possible by increased efficiency and economies in working and is in conformity with the declared policy of the Board.

FUEL PRICES UP

However, as I stated last year the effect of the unsteady world situation has been to increase fuel prices very considerably.

The major portion of our steam raising plant is fired by oil and we have up till now been protected from increased prices by a contract which your Board entered into in April 1949. This contract expires on the 31st March, 1952, and from that date onwards our price for oil fuel will be related to the current market price in Hongkong and the latest information shows that our oil fuel cost will be practically doubled from that date. Furthermore, the position with regard to coal is that the price shows an increase of 50% compared with last year.

The extra cost of fuel will amount to \$7 million in a full year's working. With these facts in mind your Board gave notice in the Press on the 11th of August last year that a surcharge would be added to our consumers' accounts to cover the extra cost of fuel. On present prices of oil and coal this will represent an increase of 22% and will have the effect of increasing the basic cost of lighting from 29 cents per unit to 35.38 cents and that for power from 12 cents to 14.64 cents. I would like to emphasise that the circumstances are most exceptional in that the supply position has turned to our disadvantage very rapidly.

We have therefore adopted this method of surcharge which can easily be altered as market rates fluctuate so as to ensure that our consumers pay only the exact amount necessary to cover the extra fuel costs. I need hardly say that coming as it does after nine reductions in rates since 1945 this course has been adopted with considerable regret by the Board, and it is our earnest hope that world fuel prices will return to their former level, thus permitting the discontinuance of the surcharge.

PROFIT FROM SALE

You will have noted that the Balance Sheet incorporates the effect of the decisions taken at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 28th September last when a resolution was carried to write up the Plant and Machinery of your Company in order that replacement thereof could be specially provided for through the charge for depreciation. This is also reflected in the profit for the year which in comparison with 1950 is reduced by \$420,000; additional depreciation having been charged in respect of the written up value of Plant and Machinery.

There is one further matter which I consider it prudent to bring to your notice, arising from the sale of obsolete plant and property during the year. A profit of over nine lakhs was realised and your Board consider it desirable to place this sum direct to Reserve. Our programme of extensions to the undertaking is considerable and will require substantial finance, and in these circumstances it is necessary to husband our resources to the fullest possible extent.

You will recall that a year ago I commented on the scheme for housing the Company's workmen. I feel sure you will be interested to learn that the site formation is now completed and work on the erection of the first block of flats to house 100 families has commenced. In view of the present housing shortage this scheme is undoubtedly a timely one, and should cement the good relations which have always existed between the Company and its employees.

PROSPECTS

I feel that you would wish me to give to you some indications of our prospects for the coming year. I can only remark that the demand for electricity in Hongkong continues to grow, almost beyond our capabilities to supply, it having regard to our difficulties in obtaining plant and machinery. There is, in addi-

tion, a large latent demand for electricity, which can be expected to materialise as the standard of living improves and modern appliances come within the reach of more of our consumers. The policy of your Board is to meet this demand as it occurs, and I am confident that with the plans laid down for plant and mains extensions, that we will succeed in doing so.

During the greater part of last year Mr. Duckworth was on leave and Mr. Thompson acted in his stead. It is my pleasure to congratulate them both, and their staff and the Chinese workmen for their good services during the year.

INTRINSIC VALUE

Seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, Mr. N. V. A. Crocker said: "I would like to congratulate you Sir, and our Board of Directors on the successful operation of the Undertaking during the past year, as a result of which a further substantial increase in demand for electricity has been met."

I have followed with interest the financial operation conducted by the Company during the year as a result of which the Directors will be assured of being able to replace at the due date the fixed assets of the Company from funds derived from Depreciation calculated on replacement costs.

This policy will ensure that the intrinsic value of the Undertaking is maintained in these times of depreciated currencies, and will safeguard the interests of the Consumer by ensuring the supply of electricity at reasonable rates.

The Company has, as you know, been regarded as one of the principal savings investments for the Hongkong population. This has come about because the Company is operated with all-round technical efficiency, and the Board have always followed a prudent financial policy.

One further point on which I would like to comment is the provision of housing for the Company's labour force. This I heartily endorse. The project will undoubtedly pay dividends in terms of better living conditions resulting in higher morale and improved health.

Finally I come to what is undoubtedly one of the most important assets of the Undertaking, the Staff. It is a matter for gratification that we have such a first rate team working for us and they have proved fully capable of surmounting the many technical and financial problems which have been experienced in the past twelve months.

OTHER BUSINESS

On the proposal of Mr. B. Wong Tape, seconded by Mr. Hudson Chen Wai, Messrs J. D. Alexander and John Keswick were re-elected Directors.

Mr. C. W. Johnson proposed, seconded by Mr. Wong Chi-po, the reappointment of Messrs Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company as auditors at a fee of \$7,500.

Mr. J. D. Alexander (Chairman) presided and was supported by the Hon. Sir Shouson Chow, the Hon. T. N. Chau, Mr. W. A. Stewart, Mr. E. R. Hill and Mr. John Keswick (Directors), Mr. F. F. Duckworth (Manager) and Mr. F. H. Fell (Acting Chief Accountant). Mr. D. T. Nolan represented the auditors, Messrs Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company.

Shareholders present were Messrs B. Wong Tape, C. W. Johnson, R. P. Danlop, Hudson Chen Wai, Lam Kwai, Lo Yuk-long, Wong Chi-po, N.V.A. Croucher, F. Loureiro, Leung Shiu-lou, A. W. Hay-Edie, H. N. Mehal, C. C. Blake, A. K. Minu, E. L. Croome, Ip Kwai-chung, D. S. Hill, Leung Fatlin and H. Gittins.

Living Language

Why we say Patter.

The quick talk used by a conjuror to divert attention or by a comedian to raise laughs is called "patter." This word has fallen very low for originally it was "Patronaster" (the Lord's Prayer) and acquired its present meaning from the mechanical way in which priests said their prayers.

Mail Notices

Latest times of posting at G.P.O. and at Kowloon Post Office: registered articles and parcels must be closed one hour earlier than the ordinary mail times shown below:

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

Indo-China, 5 p.m.; Air Vietnam, Philippines, N. Borneo, 5 p.m.; C.P.A.

By Surface

Macao, 12.30 p.m.; 6 p.m., as Lee Hong-Tak Chung, Madagascar, Aden, France, Great Britain, 5 p.m.; as Peltus.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

By Air

Japan, Canada, U.S.A., 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., 10.30 a.m.; P.O.A.S., Formosa, Japan, Noon, C.A.T.

By Surface

Macao, 12.30 p.m.; 6 p.m., as Lee Hong-Tak Chung, Madagascar, Aden, France, Great Britain, 5 p.m.; as Peltus.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

By Air

Japan, Canada, U.S.A., 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., 10.30 a.m.; P.O.A.S., Formosa, Japan, Noon, C.A.T.

By Surface

Macao, 12.30 p.m.; 6 p.m., as Lee Hong-Tak Chung, Madagascar, Aden, France, Great Britain, 5 p.m.; as Peltus.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

By Air

Japan, Canada, U.S.A., 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., 10.30 a.m.; P.O.A.S., Formosa, Japan, Noon, C.A.T.

By Surface

Macao, 12.30 p.m.; 6 p.m., as Lee Hong-Tak Chung, Madagascar, Aden, France, Great Britain, 5 p.m.; as Peltus.

MONDAY, MARCH 10

By Air

Japan, Canada, U.S.A., 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., 10.30 a.m.; P.O.A.S., Formosa, Japan, Noon, C.A.T.

By Surface

Macao, 12.30 p.m.; 6 p.m., as Lee Hong-Tak Chung, Madagascar, Aden, France, Great Britain, 5 p.m.; as Peltus.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

By Air

Japan, Canada, U.S.A., 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 8 a.m.; S.O.A.C., 10.30 a.m.; P.O.A.S., Formosa, Japan, Noon, C.A.T.

By Surface